



# Jordan Times

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**Reagan warns 'Soviet agents'**  
 WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan warned the Kremlin Saturday he intended to curb what he called widespread spying and the theft of U.S. military and industrial secrets by Soviet spies. He hinted in his weekly radio address he would order a cut in the number of Soviet and East European officials who, he said, were intelligence agents in the United States. Mr. Reagan spoke amid concern over the activities of an alleged spy ring, whose leader has been named by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as retired navy Chief Warrant Officer John Walker, Jr. The case prompted the House of Representatives on Thursday to approve a bill that would permit military courts to impose the death penalty on persons convicted of spying in peacetime. "Some 30 to 40 per cent of the more than 2,500 Soviet bloc officials in this country are known or suspected intelligence officers, and all can be called upon by the KGB (the Soviet secret police)," he said.

**Joint team to meet Pope on Monday**  
 AMMAN (J.T.) — A joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation now in Paris will brief Pope John Paul II on Monday on joint moves for a negotiated Middle East peace settlement, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said Saturday. The visit is part of efforts by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to follow up the Feb. 11 agreement on a common political strategy towards peaceful settlement of the Palestinian problem. The delegation will brief the Pope on the Jordanian-Palestinian accord and the Jordanian-Palestinian moves to achieve a just and durable peace in the region in accordance with the international legitimacy, Petra said. The delegation, headed by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali, includes Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, PLO Executive Committee member Jawid Ghusseini and PLO Central Committee member Khaled Al Hassan.

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## Cabinet decides to merge radio and television corporations

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet on Saturday decided to merge the radio and television corporations into one central corporation. The decision, which needs parliament approval before implementation, was referred to parliament.

## Prime minister meets editors

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Prime Minister, Mr. Zaid Al Rifai, Saturday met with the editors-in-chief of Jordan's four daily newspapers and discussed with them the latest political developments in the area and the Kingdom's efforts to solve the Palestinian problem. Mr. Rifai briefed the newspaper editors on the results of his Majesty King Hussein's visit to the U.S. last month and Jordan's current efforts to regain Arab solidarity and strength. Issues of mutual interest to the government and the press were also discussed during the meeting which was attended by Information Minister Mohammad Al Khazbi, Al Rai Director General Juma'a Hamad, Al Dustour Editor Mahmoud Al Sharif, Sawt Al Shaab's chairman of the board Nassouh Majali, Al Shaab's Responsible Editor Youssef Abu Lail and Jordan Times Editor George Hawameh.

## Sarkis buried in hometown

BEIRUT (R) — President Amin Gemayel led mourners Saturday at the funeral of former President Elias Sarkis, who died in Paris on Thursday, Beirut Radio said. The requiem mass in Paris was attended by a Syrian delegation led by a government minister representing President Hafez Al Assad, the radio said. Mr. Sarkis' coffin, wrapped in the Lebanese flag, was taken after the mass to his hometown of Shbaniyeh in the mountains for burial, it said. Sarkis, a Maronite Christian, was 61.

## U.S. Senate delays final confirmations

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Under pressure from 10 conservative members led by Senator Jesse Helms, the Senate has had to delay final votes to confirm the nominations of a large number of ambassadors and other administration officials until at least July 10, following Congress' July 4 holiday recess. The nominees include Thomas Pickering, to be ambassador to Israel; Marvin Stone, to be deputy director of the U.S. Information Agency; John Whitehead, to be deputy secretary of state; Richard Burt, to be ambassador to West Germany; Rozanne Ridgway, to replace Mr. Burt as assistant secretary of state for European affairs; Elliott Abrams, to be assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs.

## Yentzer confirmed as U.S. trade chief

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The Senate has approved the nomination of Clayton Yentzer as the new U.S. trade representative, to succeed William Brock, who is now secretary of labour.

# Last-minute Amal demands hold up release of hostages

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The hopes of freedom of 39 American hijack hostages were dashed Saturday when hijackers who have held them for 16 days delayed their expected release, leaving the Americans facing another night in captivity.

Leaders of the Amal militia demanded guarantees that the United States and Israel will not launch reprisal raids for the June 14 hijacking of a TWA jetliner by Lebanese gunmen.

"We are still awaiting guarantees that no retaliatory military strikes will be undertaken after the hostages are released," Amal leader Nabih Berri told a group of reporters in a brief chat at his home.

He said: "Guarantees must be given to Syria. If these guarantees are provided tonight they will be released tonight."

"If not, we are not in a hurry. Tomorrow, the day after, who knows," he said.

Ali Hussein, a member of Amal's ruling politburo, also demanded that warships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet dispatched to the Eastern Mediterranean after the hijacking be withdrawn and that Israel free all 735 Lebanese it holds in Adit prison near Haifa.

The hostages had been expected to be taken to Damascus in a convoy of buses to be freed there under a United Nations-sponsored agreement when Israel freed some 735 Lebanese from Adit, the hijackers' main demand.

Amal sources said the Shi'ite leaders had been stung by President Ronald Reagan's branding of Lebanon's Shi'ites Friday as "thugs, murderers and barbarians."

But the main problem ap-

parently was in Israel, where a government official stressed that Israel was not involved in any deal to release the American captives and has not made a decision to free the Adit prisoners.

The official, who spoke on condition he was not named, did not rule out the possibility that Israel might release the Lebanese soon. He said any large-scale release must first be approved by Israel's 25-member cabinet scheduled to meet Sunday.

Defence Ministry spokesman Nachman Shai said he "knows nothing" about a pending release.

Mr. Berri, who is also Lebanon's Justice Minister, spoke with Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam six times by telephone in an apparent effort to iron out details of the planned exchange.

Jubran Korieh, spokesman for Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, indicated that releasing the Americans was part of a deal under which Israel would free its mostly Shi'ite prisoners detained during Israel's three-year occupation of South Lebanon.

"Syria hopes that every party concerned will fulfil its commitments and the Lebanese prisoners in Adit will soon be released," Korieh said.

Mr. Berri twice postponed a planned news conference at which he apparently intended to announce the hostage release and declare he had negotiated freedom

for the Lebanese in Adit. But seven minutes before the final time of 5 p.m. (1400 GMT) set for the news conference at his heavily guarded, sandbagged home in west Beirut, he cancelled it.

An aide read a terse communique to newsmen. It said: "Contacts have not been completed yet and nothing new has developed in the situation that prevailed yesterday (Friday). Once a new development occurs, we shall duly announce it."

Mr. Hussein earlier told the Associated Press: "This is official from Nabih Berri. They (the hostages) are still in Beirut. No one has been released. All 39 of them will be released. No one will stay behind."

Amal official said 32 of the hostages plus the three man cockpit crew of the red and white Boeing 727 parked on Beirut airport's apron were gathered at the Tahweita school in the southern suburb of Bourj Al Barajneh Saturday morning ready for the ride to Damascus.

It was the first time the crew, who had been held aboard the plane, had seen the passenger hostages since they were hustled off the jet two days after the hijack.

The passenger hostages had been split up into groups, some under Amal's protection, in houses in the teeny shums of south Beirut, apparently to prevent any U.S. rescue mission.

The hostages identified the four missing captives as Robert Brown, 42, Richard Herzberg, 33, Jeffrey Ingalls, 24, and Robert Traumann, 37.

The pilot, Capt. L. Testrake, 57, told reporters in the school courtyard: "We've been told we're going to Damascus, but we're still waiting for the last four to get here."

The four were believed to be still held by Hezbollah, or "Party of God," the radical faction believed responsible for the hijack. But Amal officials insisted all 39 hostages will be freed.

An air of acute expectation swept through west Beirut early Saturday morning when Amal took the 32 hostages to the Summerland hotel where journalists were able to interview them.

Some of the hostages said they had been told they were to be taken to Damascus and when Syrian officials announced this was the case, dozens of foreign journalists rushed from Beirut to the Syrian capital.

At Beirut airport, officials said the engines of the TWA Boeing 727 were tested and the plane could fly, raising expectation that the hostages might leave in the aircraft they had arrived in (See page 2).

At Mr. Berri's house meanwhile, Amal sources said two Frenchmen kidnapped in Beirut on May 22, journalist Jean-Paul Kaufmann and researcher Michel Seurat, were inside and might be freed. Reporters saw Mr. Seurat's wife and a French diplomat arrive at the house.

Mr. Kaufmann and Mr. Seurat are two of 12 Westerners, including seven Americans and two other Frenchmen, kidnapped in Lebanon 15 months prior to the TWA hijack (See page 2).

Washington had said it wanted the seven Americans released along with the hijack hostages, but sources close to the U.S. embassy in Damascus said they were not expected to be released together.

The new Amal demands apparently caught the White House by surprise. Earlier, spokesman Larry Speakes had expressed optimism that the release was already under way, via Damascus.



His Majesty King Hussein chairs a session of the cabinet on Saturday (Petra photo)

## King chairs cabinet meeting, stresses necessity for summit

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday chaired the meeting of the Council of Ministers held at the Prime Ministry.

The King briefed the cabinet on joint Jordanian-Palestinian political moves, on the Arab and international levels, and the current situation in the Arab World. The King told the cabinet that divisions in the Arab World should prompt Arab leaders to exert more efforts towards stopping the slide, especially at this sensitive

stage, in order to create the right atmosphere for inter-Arab coordination and solidarity.

The King stressed the necessity for holding an Arab summit that could tackle problems facing Arabs in the service of the nation's ideals and aspirations.

The King also expressed his pride and confidence in the government of Mr. Zaid Rifai and his satisfaction with its efforts in the various fields.

The King gave the cabinet di-

rectives concerning government work at the forefront of which is the effort to support the Armed Forces. He stressed to them that arms, no matter where they come from, will be strictly Jordanian and Arab once they are in the hands of our Armed Forces.

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Rifai thanked the King for his directives and said the government considers these directives as an integrated programme for its work and efforts in the various fields.

## Changes among senior officials: Majali for Public Security; Qassem for Central Bank; Keilani for Press, Publications

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Council of Ministers, in a meeting it held Saturday evening, decided to make the following changes among senior government officials:

Mr. Hussein Al Qassem, Deputy Central Bank Governor, is to replace Dr. Mohammad Sa'id Nabulsi as governor as of Aug. 1, 1985, for a period of five years.

Mr. Peter Salah is to retire from his job as adviser at the Prime Ministry as of July 1, 1985, upon his request.

Mr. Ahmad Al Qasbi, now secretary general of the House of Parliament, has been appointed governor as of July 1. He will be replaced at the parliament by Mr. Hani Salim Khair who held this job previously.

Mr. Eid Al Qataneh, a lawyer, has been appointed governor. Dr. Ahmad Youssef Al Tai, a senior official at the Ministry of Education, has been appointed undersecretary at the Ministry of Higher Education.

Mr. Musa Zaid Keilani, a former ambassador to Bahrain and Sudan, has been appointed Director General of the Department of Press and Publications.

Mr. Nasri Fuad Atallah has



Abdul Hadi Al Majali



Musa Keilani



Hussein Al Qassem

been appointed Director General of the Tourism Authority as of July 1.

## Mideast is most likely area for nuclear confrontation — Hassan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A combination of several factors, including the frequency of armed conflicts in the Middle East and the intractability of the Arab-Israeli conflict, has rendered the region the most likely area where a nuclear war can break out, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said.

Addressing a seminar entitled "Colloquium of the Group de Bellevue" in Geneva on Friday, the Crown Prince said though he did not want to be the "prophet of doom... the fact is, nonetheless, that it is not unrealistic to consider the Middle East as the area which is more vulnerable to nuclear confrontation."

He cited superpower rivalry, the importance of the Middle East to the superpowers and the presence of nuclear weapons in the Middle East — in U.S. arsenals in Turkey and aboard warships cruising in the region — as other factors which make the Middle East the most likely area for a nuclear war.

"More significantly, Israel possesses nuclear capability and is known to deploy nuclear missiles," he said.

Elaborating further on the point, Prince Hassan said there are three factors that could lead to a possible consideration of the nuclear option in the Middle East. The first, he said, is "the possibility of another conventional Arab-Israeli war, which drags on and degenerates into a war of attrition." The second, he said, is the possibility of having "miniaturised nuclear devices, crude but nonetheless lethal in urban areas, becoming available in the market place and obtained by a radical group."

Such a group, Prince Hassan said, could find the Middle East a "fertile ground for trying out its own twisted design of social order" and which it could manipulate to holding the world to ransom.

The third reason which could lead to nuclear confrontation in the region, he said, stems from the fact that no "basic change has occurred in the Middle East since 1973."

Therefore, he added, "the superpowers could go to the brink of nuclear exchange in order to control its regional allies."

"Arms industries must undergo conversion to the extent possible and those who live on arms must have alternative means of profit," Prince Hassan suggested.

Prince Hassan reiterated his belief that the notion of world peace is possible and that whatever the justification might be for a nuclear war, be it "balance of power, deterrence or national security, going nuclear for military purposes is opting for collective suicide."

The three-day seminar on "Nuclear War: Nuclear Proliferation and Their Consequences," in its five sessions discussed different issues pertaining to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and its future, the spread of nuclear weapons among nations, new nuclear weapons states and their impact on Third World regional conflicts, global effects of a nuclear war and the nuclear arms race and arms control.

Participants in the seminar included Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, Chairman-President of the Group de Bellevue Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, directors of Western defence institutes, prominent American, European and Asian intellectuals and politicians.

Full text of Prince Hassan's speech will be published in tomorrow's Jordan Times

## Saeh rejects Kuwaiti speaker's charges

AMMAN (J.T.) — Palestine National Council (PNC) Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Saeh Saturday expressed dismay and astonishment at a statement made by the speaker of the Kuwaiti parliament, Ahmad Sa'adoun, and rejected allegations and accusations levelled by him against Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Sheikh Saeh, in a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said Mr. Sa'adoun would not have made such comments if he had carried out "an objective study of the current Jordan-PLO moves and the situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories."

He refuted the Kuwaiti speaker's charges that Arab aid extended to the PLO and Jordan was misused and said: "Such misguided rumours over use of funds would have negative impact on higher Arab interests and will only serve to achieve the goals of the enemies of the Arabs."

Referring to the recent siege by the Lebanese Amal militia of Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut, Sheikh Saeh praised the resistance put up by Palestinian fighters against the Amal assault and said such "heroic resistance is worth double the amount of aid rather than cutting it."

"If Mr. Sa'adoun was aware of the situation in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza, he would not have suggested cutting the aid," Sheikh Saeh said. He called on Mr. Sa'adoun and members of the Kuwaiti parliament to "shoulder their responsibilities towards the central cause of the Arab and Islamic nations and reciprocate the feelings of their Jordanian and Palestinian brethren towards the emir, government and people of Kuwait."

## Klibi proposes July 27 for summit

TUNIS (Agencies) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi is suggesting July 27 as a date for a proposed extraordinary Arab summit on the Palestinian issue, Arab diplomatic sources said Saturday.

Mr. Klibi was proposing the date at an Arab League Council session which opened in Tunis Saturday to decide whether to hold the first Arab summit for nearly three years, the sources, quoted by Reuters, said.

Iraq withdrew a request to put a quarrel with Libya on the agenda of Saturday's council session, the sources said. The request had threatened to jeopardise preparations for any summit.

Iraq broke relations with Libya on Wednesday over an accord signed between Libya and Iran, Baghdad's Gulf war enemy (Jordan condemns Libyan move, page 2).

Iraq withdrew the request when it was clear only permanent representatives were attending the league session instead of foreign ministers as originally planned, the sources added.

But Baghdad reserved the right to raise the issue at a suitable future date, the sources said. A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said Iraq was proposing that a summit debate the affair.

Western diplomatic sources said both Iraq and Libya requested after their rift this week that the other be expelled from the 21-member Arab League.

Lebanon boycotted Saturday's league session, as it did a previous meeting on the issue of the camps three weeks ago.

The PLO asked that the council declare void a ceasefire agreement signed last week between Syria, the Shi'ite Amal militia and Damascus-based PLO dissident groups, the sources said.

The PLO says the agreement, which called for the surrender of all but light weapons, undermined the Palestinians' right to defend themselves.

Mr. Klibi presented a report to the session, a follow-up to a league meeting here on June 8-9, on the implementation of a resolution calling for a ceasefire and withdrawal of besieging forces from the camps.

## Arab League calls on EC to exert efforts for peace

TUNIS (Petra) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi has called on all heads of state of the European Community (EC), now meeting at summit level in Milan, Italy, to exert efforts towards contributing positively to finding a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

In a message he sent to the Milan summit, Mr. Klibi also called for European pressure on Israel to end its occupation of South Lebanon. Israel said it had completed its withdrawal from Lebanon, a country it invaded in 1982, earlier this month but left behind a number of "advisers" in South Lebanon.

In his message to the EC leaders, Mr. Klibi said the Middle East is passing through a "most critical stage" and called on the European leaders to "use the present opportunity for peace in the region before it is too late."

## CONDOLENCES

**The Lebanese Embassy in Amman mourns with deep sorrow the death of Former President Elias Sarkis, who passed away in Paris on June 27, 1985.**

Register of condolences will be open at the ambassador's residence, in Jebel Amman, opposite Khalid Hospital on Monday and Tuesday, July 1st and 2nd, between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

CEROLL Budapest See page 6

- INSIDE**
- \* Iraq denies losing Majnoon Island positions, page 2
  - \* Arab economists tackle U.S.-Israel trade pact, effects of world recession, page 4
  - \* Fahed Fanek comments on Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, page 4
  - \* Why there is boom in Italy's TV ads, page 5
  - \* Budd clocks world best in 3000 metres, page 6
  - \* U.S. trade deficit swells, page 7
  - \* Reagan, Gorbachev to meet in November, report says, page 8



# Baghdad denies loss of Majnoon Island positions

**BAGHDAD (R) —** Iraq said Saturday its troops still held parts of the oil-rich Majnoon Islands, which Iran claimed it had cleared of Iraqi troops.

A military spokesman told the Iraq News Agency (INA): "Our forces are still entrenched in their positions, well fortified after they were seized back two days ago."

Iraq says its troops, in a raid before dawn on Thursday, retook parts of the Majnoon Islands area in southern Iraqi swamplands close to the border, which Iran had held since February last year.

Iraq said Friday the Iraqis captured only ambush and observation bunkers well ahead of the Iranian front line and these were quickly retaken by Iranian forces.

The commander of Iraq's Third Army Corps, Maj.-Gen. Maher Abed Al Rashid, told Baghdad Radio his men attacked in battalion strength and fleeing Iranian defenders left behind more than 100 dead. He said Iraq suffered only one soldier wounded.

Meanwhile in Peking Iran's parliamentary speaker Saturday dis-

missed reports that his country had concluded a major arms deal with China and said the war with Iraq would continue until Iran's demands were fully met.

Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, considered the second most influential man in Iran after Ayatollah Khomeini, told a press conference in the Great Hall of the People most of his country's weapons were made domestically.

"Reports we have made big purchases from China are political and propaganda warfare against us by news imperialism," he said. He said most of Iran's ships, missiles, planes, tanks and artillery were of Western design, and those captured from Iraq which were of Soviet manufacture.

Mr. Rafsanjani said some weapons spare parts were made in Iran and others were bought on the free market. He said he did not know the sources.

Western diplomats here had said Mr. Rafsanjani's talks with Chinese leaders, including Deng Xiaoping for an hour Saturday were likely to cover possible Chinese arms sales.

Middle East sources said Iran needed anti-aircraft guns to combat high-flying Iraqi MiG jets and long-range missiles to attack Iraqi cities. The sources said China had such missiles.

Asked if China had offered to mediate in the war, Mr. Rafsanjani said Iran was not prepared to accept a ceasefire.

"There is no room for bargaining. We will continue the war until our demands are met," he said.

He said Iran and China "were 90 per cent in agreement" on regional and international issues they discussed, including what he called the "policy of superpowers to create areas of tension and conflict in the Third World."

He said he did not know who was responsible for taking Americans hostage in Beirut.



The three-man crew of the hijacked Trans World Airlines (TWA) meet 36 passenger hostages in the compound of a south Beirut school early Saturday when reports said they were being prepared for transfer to Damascus (AP wirephoto)

## TWA plane refuelled, inspected for airworthiness

**BEIRUT (R) —** The hijacked American airliner at Beirut Airport has been refuelled and is being inspected to determine whether it can take off, airport officials said Saturday.

It was not clear if the three-man American flight crew of the Trans World Airlines (TWA) Boeing 727, hijacked on a flight from Athens to Rome on June 14, was still on board.

An undetermined number of other hostages from the plane were being driven to Damascus escorted by Syrian troops and the International Red Cross, according to reports from Damascus and Washington.

Two men appeared in the plane's cockpit at 10:30 a.m. (0730 GMT) but reporters could not immediately identify them.

Airport technicians and two other men reported to be pilots of the Lebanese carrier Middle East Airlines inspected the fuselage and wings and then went on board.

The airport officials said the Boeing 727 took on 20,000 litres of fuel Friday, enough for a short flight to Larnaca Airport in Cyprus or to Damascus.

They said technicians were trying to determine if its three engines were in condition to fly, but it was hoped they were in shape to reach Larnaca or Damascus, flights of 20 and 30 minutes respectively.

The plane has not been serviced since it was hijacked over Greece on June 14 and forced to shuttle across the Mediterranean between Algiers and Beirut for three days.

A TWA official said on June 16 that the plane was nearing its mechanical limits.

Since its final stop in Beirut on June 16, the engines have run almost continually to maintain air conditioning for the crew and their armed Shi'ite Muslim guards.

The airport officials said the request to check the plane came from pilot John Teslake and officials of the Shi'ite militia Amal.

## Paris hopes some French hostages may be freed

**PARIS (R) —** France is without news of four French hostages held in Beirut but it is hopeful two of the men are travelling to Damascus with the American hostages released Saturday, an External Relations Ministry spokesman said.

The spokesman said the ministry had received no word on the fate of journalist Jean-Pierre Kaufmann and researcher Michel Seurat, kidnapped in Beirut on May 22.

Lebanese Shi'ite Amal militia leader Nabih Berri last week offered to transfer the pair, along with the American hijack hostages, to the French embassy in Beirut pending negotiations on the release of the group.

Although France finally turned down the offer, official sources said the government had seriously considered the option in a bid to secure the release of the two, together with diplomats Marcel Fontaine and Marcel Carton, captured in late March.

"We are continuing to press for the release of the four Frenchmen," the spokesman said.

Mr. Berri did not include Mr. Carton and Mr. Fontaine in his list of hostages.

He said "those having influence over this matter in Lebanon" to release the hostages and "make the perpetrators of this terrorist act accountable for their deeds."

Mr. Habib and James A. Kaddo, chairman of the Los Angeles-based United American Lebanese Committee, also urged Israel to abide by international law and "act on its own initiative to release the 700-plus remaining civilian hostages it illegally removed from southern Lebanon."

Israel's removal of Lebanese citizens appears to be the underlying cause for the hostage crisis, said Mr. Habib, who urged the Reagan administration to demand that Israel release those Lebanese.

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## U.N. says Finns acted properly in S. Lebanon

**UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) —** A U.N. board of inquiry has concluded that members of the Finnish contingent in the U.N. peacekeeping force in South Lebanon acted properly in helping the defection of members of a pro-Israel militia.

The U.N. spokesman's office issued a statement saying the board determined that 11 Shi'ite Muslim members of the predominantly Falangist South Lebanon Army (SLA) decided to defect of their own free will.

On June 7, the Finns helped them by making it look as if they were captured. "The Finnish battalion took an active part in this incident in that it agreed to a safe exchange of gunfire, accepted the weapons from the defecting force after surrender, and provided them with transportation to a safe area," the report said.

The 11 defectors went over to the Shi'ite Amal militia and SLA troops later kidnapped 21 Finnish soldiers and held them for eight days demanding return of the 11. The Finns were all released unharmed.

The board concluded, "no evidence of an agreement could be found between members of the Amal Movement and Finnish battalion personnel."

The SLA, which is armed and supported from Israel to keep anti-Israeli forces from operating in the border area of South Lebanon, is considered illegal by the Lebanese government.

The inquiry board, headed by the Deputy Force Commander, Brigadier General Jean Pons of France, said: "In conclusion, based on the information collected, it appears that SLA personnel at Al Qantarrah defected on their initiative and on their own free will. None of these defectors currently wish to return to the SLA."

The U.N. spokesman noted that one of UNIFIL's main tasks was to prevent the presence in its area of armed elements not authorised by the Lebanese government, and that the various U.N. contingents were instructed to try to achieve this through negotiation rather than by force.

The activities of the SLA are strongly opposed by the Lebanese government and its position at Al Qantarrah was well within the UNIFIL area.

"In those circumstances the secretary general is satisfied that the action taken by the Finnish unit at Al Qantarrah was intended to achieve the basic objective mentioned above," the spokesman concluded.

## Jordanian speaker denounces Libyan-Iranian statement

**AMMAN (Petra) —** Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Fayed Saturday denounced the joint Libyan-Iranian communique, which was issued at the end of the Iranian delegation's visit to Libya, describing it as a departure from the Arab League charter, joint Arab defence charter and all the Arab League resolutions.

Mr. Fayed expressed regret over the communique, which he said was issued at a time when Iraq is standing in the face of the Iranian expansionist policy in the Arab World.

Mr. Fayed was speaking during a meeting with Iraq's ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Shuja'a Sultan, who called at Mr. Fayed's office to bid farewell on the occasion of the end of his term in Jordan.

Mr. Fayed reviewed with the Iraqi ambassador the current Arab situation in general and the joint Libyan-Iranian communique in particular.

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Mr. Al Fayed expressed regret over the communique, which he said was issued at a time when Iraq is standing in the face of the Iranian expansionist policy in the Arab World.

Mr. Fayed was speaking during a meeting with Iraq's ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Shuja'a Sultan, who called at Mr. Fayed's office to bid farewell on the occasion of the end of his term in Jordan.

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### JORDAN TELEVISION

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#### MAIN CHANNEL

17:00 ..... Koran  
17:20 ..... Cartoons  
17:40 ..... Children's Programme  
18:00 ..... Give Me A Break  
18:20 ..... Programme Review  
18:40 ..... A Programme on Jerash  
19:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:00 ..... Promotion of the New Programme Cycle  
21:30 ..... Arabic Series  
22:30 ..... Tomorrow's Programme  
23:00 ..... Arabic Series  
23:30 ..... News in Arabic  
23:50 ..... Religious Programme

#### FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 ..... French varieties: Cadence 3  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... News in French  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Promotion of the new Programme Cycle  
21:30 ..... Comedy: Allo Allo  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:30 ..... Finder of Lost Love

#### RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM

and partly on 95.60 KHz. SW

Tel: 77411-19

07:00 ..... Light Music  
07:30 ..... Newsday  
08:00 ..... Morning Show  
08:30 ..... News Summary  
09:00 ..... News Summary  
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23:30 ..... News Summary  
24:00 ..... Close down

### BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

07:00 Newsday 07:30 Wimbledon Report 07:45 Letter Review 07:55 Reflections 08:00 World News 08:20 24 Hours: News Summary 08:30 A Land of Song 08:45 Letter from America 09:00 Newsday 09:30 Jazz for the Asking 10:00 World News 10:20 News About News 10:30 Hunger 10:50 Hunger 11:00 World News 11:05 Reflections 11:15 The Pleasure of Your Review 12:15 Sports Review 12:45 Tomorrow's Child 13:00 News Summary: Short Story 13:15 From Our Own Correspondent 13:30 Religious Service 14:00 World News 14:20 News About Britain 14:45 From Our Own Correspondent 15:00 News Summary: The Deceivers 16:00 World News 16:05 24 Hours: News Summary 16:30 Fried Eggs Are 16:45 The Tony Mynar Report Show 17:00 News Summary 17:30 The Killing Season 18:00 Radio News 18:15 Concert Hall 19:00 World News 19:05 Commentary 19:15 The Spy 19:30 World News: Commentary 02:15 Letter from America 02:30 The Spy - We Love It 02:45 The Pleasure of Your Review 03:00 World News 03:05 24 Hours: News Summary 23:30 Sunday Half-Hour 24:00 News Summary: Short Story 00:15 The Pleasure of Your Review 00:30 World News 00:35 Jewels for a Princess: The Sonatas of Scarlatti 01:25 Book Choice 01:30 Financial News 01:40 Reflections 01:45 Sports Round-up 02:00 World News: Commentary 02:15 Letter from America 02:30 The Spy - We Love It

#### VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1250, KHz. 7200, 9563, 11740, 11925 & 15210

06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 06:30 News Summary/VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 07:30 News Summary/VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Focus 08:30 News Summary/VOA Morning 08:30 News Summary/VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 News Summary/VOA Morning 09:10 News Summary/VOA Morning 09:30 News 09:40 News Summary/VOA Morning 09:40 News Summary/VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 News Summary/VOA Morning 10:10 News Summary/VOA Morning 10:30 News 10:40 News Summary/VOA Morning 10:40 News Summary/VOA Morning 11:00 News 11:10 News Summary/VOA Morning 11:10 News Summary/VOA Morning 11:30 News 11:40 News Summary/VOA Morning 11:40 News Summary/VOA Morning 12:00 News 12:10 News Summary/VOA Morning 12:10 News Summary/VOA Morning 12:30 News 12:40 News Summary/VOA Morning 12:40 News Summary/VOA Morning 13:00 News 13:10 News Summary/VOA Morning 13:10 News Summary/VOA Morning 13:30 News 13:40 News Summary/VOA Morning 13:40 News Summary/VOA Morning 14:00 News 14:10 News Summary/VOA Morning 14:10 News Summary/VOA 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## Rifai approves arrangements for second industrial festival

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai has approved the holding of the second Jordanian industrial festival, which is organised by Al Mustahlik (consumer) magazine in cooperation with all ministries and public and private institutions.

The festival will be held under the theme of "contribute towards building our industrial renaissance" and will commence on the eve of Jordan's celebrations marking His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne on Aug. 11. The industrial festival will last for one month.

The festival includes a number of activities, among which are a motorcade of industrial cars which will tour the streets of Amman and the various cities and towns of Jordan, in addition to a march by factory workers and an exhibition of Jordanian industrial products.

The Al Mustahlik magazine last year organised the first Jordanian industrial festival in cooperation with ministries and public and private institutions with the aim of encouraging Jordanian industries. The festival attracted approximately half a million visitors.

## Dakhqan opens training course for Arab agriculturalists

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan has been able to overcome the difficult economic situation and has achieved reasonable growth rates through continuous efforts and the involvement of citizens in decision making. Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakhqan said Saturday.

Mr. Dakhqan, who was addressing participants in an eight-week training course on agricultural planning and investment projects held at the University of Jordan Faculty of Agriculture, added that agriculture has been set as a priority in the Jordan development plans in terms of financial investments.

Mr. Dakhqan referred to the experience gained from the intensive development of the Jordan Valley and said that this area is one of the pilot planning models in the Arab region in view of the integrated development it has achieved in the economic, social and cultural fields.

Jordan has also developed its planning institutions and has formed a Ministry of Planning to prepare plans and to draw up long and short term economic strategies, the minister added.

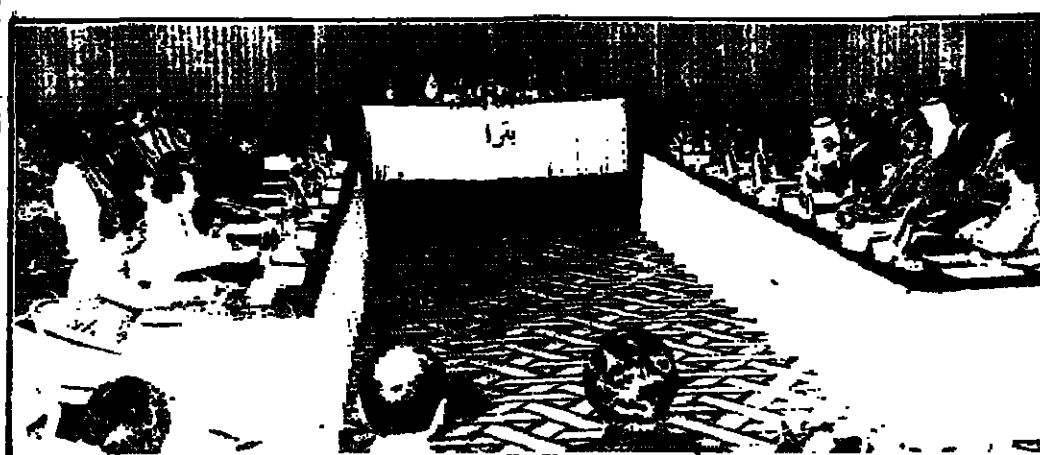
Mr. Dakhqan went on to say that the Jordanian government has started to concentrate on the production of strategic crops and has started producing wheat using modern technology and cultivation methods.

Speaking about the objectives of the training course, the regional director of the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) Mr. Abdul Hamid Al Kayed, said that it aims to upgrade the efficiency of trained Arab cadres who contribute towards promoting agricultural and economic development methods in their respective countries.

Mr. Al Kayed said that food security should top all developmental priorities.

Director of the AOAD Economic Department Hamdi Salem addressed the participants on behalf of the organisation's director general and said that the AOAD has been able, over the past 13 years, to effectively contribute towards expanding knowledge about the agricultural sector in terms of its technical and specialised resources.

Taking part in the course are 16 participants representing 16 Arab countries.



The opening meeting Saturday of the 43rd session of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) in Amman (Petra photo)

## Endowment survey analyses manpower shortages, surpluses in labour market

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Endowment for Culture and Education (RECE) has just completed a survey on manpower planning in Jordan and the balance between manpower supply and demand for the years 1982-1986. The survey indicates that there is a demand for manpower in the services sector while there is a surplus of general medical practitioners and civil engineers. The study pointed out that the country's socio-economic development plans are in need of educational, administrative, political and military science researchers and specialists.

During a press conference Saturday, vice-president of the RECE board of trustees Anis Muasher outlined the main aims of the endowment which are to promote and encourage academic, cultural and artistic facilities in the Kingdom. Her Majesty Queen Noor is the chairperson of the endowment.

The survey was conducted by the RECE because information on manpower requirements in the labour market were limited and statistical information on this subject was lacking, Dr. Muasher said.

This study, he told reporters, will help decision makers and students assess the specialisations which are needed by the country for development and future plans. The survey was completed by a number of qualified Jordanians and the outcomes of the research will soon be published and made available to all educational decision-makers, schools and students in order to help them to realise the specialisations that are in demand before they decide their future studies, Dr. Muasher added.

The survey broke down the labour market requirements into four categories: Specialists in natural sciences, mathematics and engineering studies and specialised medical doctors, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, in addition to specialised teachers and specialists in sciences, administration staff for governmental departments and specialised community college technicians, librarians and vocational trainers.

At both the undergraduate and graduate level, the study indicates that there is a demand for qualified personnel in the following specialisations: Geology and mineralogy, economics and statistics, physics, chemistry, soil science and irrigation, computer sciences, project evaluation, city and regional planning, industrial engineering, electronics and electromechanical engineering, chemical engineering, petroleum engineering, labour security engineering, maintenance and aeronautical engineering.

The study noted that whilst there is a surplus of general practitioners, there is a demand for specialised doctors in the fields of neurology, X-rays, anaesthetics, and physiotherapy in addition to a shortage of nurses.

According to the study, specialised teachers and professors of sciences are needed in the following areas: Elementary stage instructors for all specialisations, chemistry, physics and mathematics teachers for the secondary school stages, educational supervisors, text specialists, librarians, demographic and manpower planners, journalists and writers.

Qualified personnel are also needed to fill administrative and governmental positions such as project managers, financial planners, hospital administrators and local and regional manpower planners.

Vocational trainers are also needed to instruct and train natural science technicians, chemists, medical assistants, nurses, statistical research assistants, X-ray assistants, laboratory assistants, anaesthetic assistants, miners, mechanical draughtsmen, air traffic controllers, telecommunications and mechanics in industry maintenance.

The study has been compiled in two volumes and was prepared by computer analysis after gathering statistical information from the military service department and other sources to assess the number of Jordanian youth who are studying abroad, Dr. Sa'id Al Tell, a member of the RECE board of trustees told reporters.

Mrs. In'am Al Mufti, advisor to Her Majesty Queen Noor, said that this study was submitted to all decision-makers in order to help them implement future socio-economic development plans which are directly related to manpower planning for local and neighbouring labour market needs.

Former minister of information Laila Sharaf, who is also a member of the RECE board of trustees, said that the main aim of this survey was to create balance and equality between students who wish to continue their higher education and to help them choose a specialisation which will enable them to support themselves and serve their country.

## Arab economists tackle U.S.-Israeli trade pact, effect of world recession

By Sa'ad G. Hattar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Saturday opened its 43rd ordinary session in Amman. The two-day meetings will discuss a U.S.-Israeli free trade pact signed last April, the economic situation in the Arab World and means to enhance pan-Arab economic and financial integration in the wake of international recession.

During the first day of the session, which convened at the level of ministers of economy, trade and finance, from ten-member states, participants called for more coherent Arab unity in the face of the world's economic crisis.

CAEU Secretary General Mahdi Obeidi, in his working paper, said that austerity measures taken by Arab countries were a sign of current difficulties. Mr. Obeidi pointed out that it is impractical for any one country to solve local and international "economic riddles" by itself.

In his speech, the president of the current session, Syrian Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Salim Yassin expressed gratitude to the Jordanian government on behalf of the Arab delegations and said the efforts and facilities offered by Jordan were the main reason for successful results of previous CAEU sessions.

Dr. Yassin also reviewed the financial crisis facing the world's nations, including Arab countries, which, he pointed out, are subject to the stress of the current situation. He said that Arab countries have allocated a considerable portion of their budgets to avoid repercussions from the international economic recession.

He pointed out that external debts of some Arab countries have increased on a large scale and that their exports have been reduced leading to deficit in their balance of trade.

Mr. Obeidi emphasised the necessity of achieving pan-Arab cooperation and coordination in order to counter the "economic and security dangers" facing the Arab nation one of which, he said, is the continuation of the "Zionist entity". The Israeli invasion of Arab territories as well as Israel's expansionist policy and the 58-

month Iran-Iraq war were cited as factors which negatively affect the region's progress and prosperity.

On the session's agenda are several working papers submitted by the participants, including a memo presented by the CAEU general assembly requesting countries which did not yet ratify the Arab economic unity treaty, signed on Dec. 2, 1984, to fulfil their commitments. The memo suggested forming a special committee to contact these Arab countries urging them to endorse the treaty.

Another working paper presented by CAEU vice secretary general and head of the Iraqi delegation to the session, Dr. Jubel Abdul Fattah, suggested integrated pan-Arab industrial coordination via developmental activities in order to solve Arab countries' industrial crises. Dr. Fattah suggested the compilation of a production schedule for industrial concerns in the Arab World. The schedule could be designed by the CAEU in coordination with the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development, he said.

Head of the Jordanian delegation to the session is Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajai Muasher. Dr. Ibrahim Budran, the ministry's under secretary, is also attending.

Arab participants include United Arab Emirates Ministry of Economy Under Secretary Abdul Raouf Mubarak, Sudanese Minister of Finance and Economic Planning Awad Abdul Majed, Libyan representative to the CAEU Ahmad Muriada, Mauritanian Ambassador to Syria Mohammad Wil Dawoudi, North Yemeni deputy representative to the CAEU Musleh Hajar, Palestinian deputy representative Zuhair Sa'id and the Kuwaiti ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Najem.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Rifai receives mayor of Bethlehem

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai received at his office Saturday Mayor of the occupied Arab city of Bethlehem Elias Freij.

### GUVS raises funds for Beirut refugees

AMMAN (Petra) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) Saturday launched a campaign to raise cash and in-kind contributions for the stricken refugees in Beirut camps. Organisers of the campaign called on all citizens and institutions, particularly medical ones, to support the campaign in order to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinians in Beirut camps. Cash and in-kind contributions will be delivered through the International Red Cross.

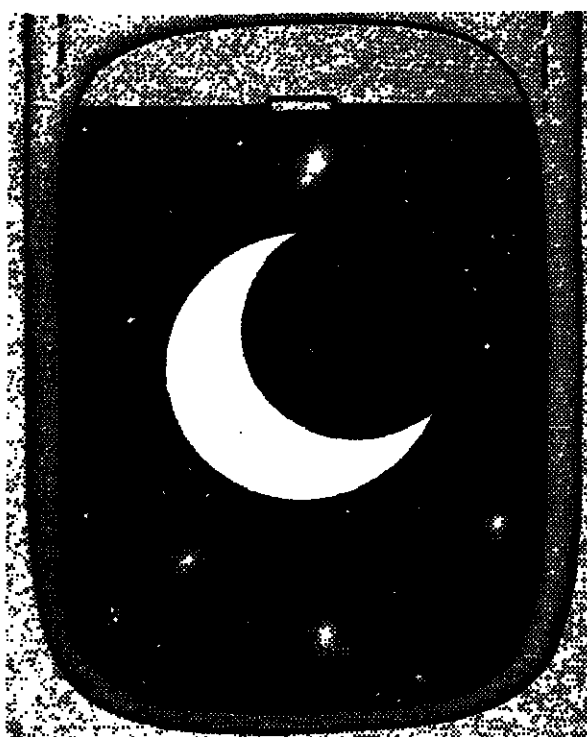
### Sports club to utilise municipal land

AMMAN (Petra) — An agreement was signed Saturday at Amman Municipality between the municipality and Al Jadisia sports club under which the club will reclaim and invest in a piece of municipal land by setting up a project to achieve the club's sporting and social goals. The project entails establishing a public garden for children, playgrounds and car parks. The agreement stipulates that the club bear the financial costs of the project and the administrative expenditures during the 30-year investment period. The agreement was signed by Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh and the club's president Mohammad Hamdan.

### AUB students sit for exams

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 4,600 students enrolled at the Arab University of Beirut (AUB), including some 3,600 Jordanian students, Saturday sat for the end of the year examinations which are being held at the University of Jordan for the fourth consecutive year. Arab University of Beirut President Abdul Fattah Al Sahen said Saturday. Mr. Sahen arrived in Amman Friday to supervise the examinations which will last for three weeks.

# British Airways now offer you two different views on flights to London.

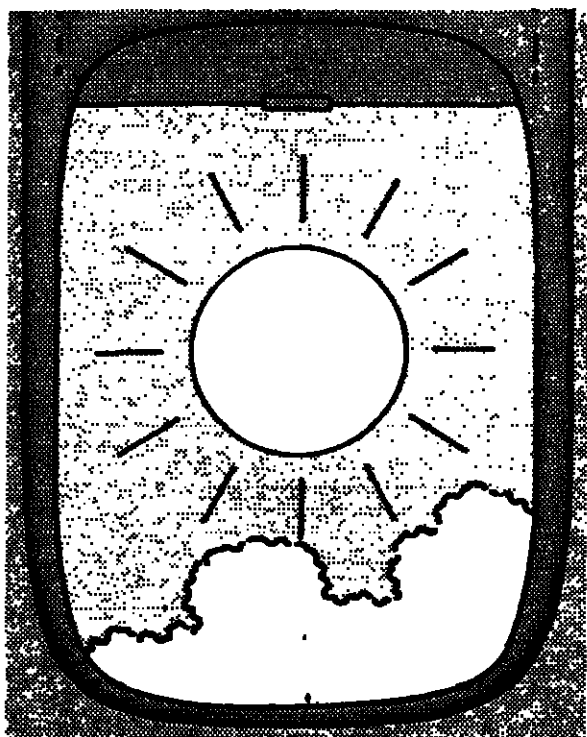


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1984

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Deposits	US \$ 10,512 million
Loans and Advances	US \$ 5,153 million
Total Assets	US \$ 14,348 million
Profit before Tax	US \$ 277 million
Capital/Assets Ratio	exceeds 7%
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Bangladesh	Ghana	Kuwait	Oman	Thailand
Barbados	Gibraltar	Lebanon	Pakistan	Togo
Botswana	Grand Cayman	Liberia	Panama	Turkey
Brazil	Hong Kong	Luxembourg	Paraguay	UAE
Cameroon	India	Macau	Philippines	United Kingdom
Canada	Indonesia	Malaysia	Portugal	Uruguay
China	Isle of Man	Maldives	Senegal	USA
Colombia	Italy	Mauritius	Seychelles	Venezuela
Cyprus	Ivory Coast	Monaco	Sierra Leone	Yemen (North)
Djibouti	Jamaica	Morocco	Spain	Zambia
Egypt	Japan	Netherlands	Sri Lanka	Zimbabwe

**Jordan Branches At Your Service**



## Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

## National airlines — assets or liabilities?

LAST WEEK, I urged the Civil Aviation Authority and Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, to initiate a study establishing and, where possible, quantifying the direct and indirect benefits of civil aviation to Jordan.

Research on benefits of civil aviation to the national economy is usually undertaken by, or on behalf of, airlines, to improve their image as a positive factor and provider of services essential to the national economy and society, and to change the public opinion's impressions that airlines are burdens on the economy, and that they usually lose money and borrow heavily under gov-

ernment guarantees, while enjoying too much privileges and undeserved glamour.

Such reports are abundantly available at world major libraries and can serve as reference and model for approaching the subject. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) reproduced several studies in a summary form for the benefit of its members, including an excellent exercise on Jordan conducted by Mr. Khalid Bitav more than twelve years ago.

One of these reports covers the importance of Civil Air Transport to the United Kingdom Economy (1970). It demonstrates that the civil air

transport and related industries represent a significant and growing segment of the U.K. economy. The economic importance of these industries as regards employment, income and expenditure, balance of payments, and foreign trade has been examined and found to have a positive and beneficial influence on the U.K. economy.

Another report was issued depicting the benefits of civil aviation to the Australian economy. It found out that in Australia, and on world wide basis, civil air transport has had a long history of sustained and high growth rates. These features are forecast to continue

well into the future. Steps taken within governmental and private spheres of influence to encourage the growth and development of scheduled air services — both international and domestic — will produce many beneficial short and long term effects on the development of the Australian economy.

A similar report compiled by the Intelligence Unit of the "Economist" covered the benefits of civil aviation to the economy of India (1972). The study analysed both direct and indirect benefits, derived from such factors as employment, income flows, taxation and other payments, expenditure on purchases, air tourists and

trade. Having quantified all these benefits in financial terms, the report concluded that the benefits flowing from civil aviation are vital to the nation if it is to continue participating in the mainstream of progress.

In order to create an atmosphere favourable to the international airlines, and to pressure New York State not to impose heavy taxes on jet fuel, The Air Transport Association of America (ATA) issued (1984) a pamphlet to demonstrate airlines contribution to the economy and well being of the New York State. The pamphlet quantified airline

economic benefits to New York in the form of employment for thousands, income for industries that provide goods and services in support of airline passenger and cargo operations. Billions of dollars of expenditures by air travelers visiting the state, vital business, social and recreational links to and from other regions and the world, direct and indirect tax payments, millions of dollars to support New York airports, including terminals and runway facilities, without burdening local tax-payers.

The findings of such studies and surveys prove the point that there is a case for such study in Jordan.

## Something is better than nothing

IT SEEMS the extraordinary Arab summit conference that Morocco has called for will not be held on time. Indicators show that we Arabs are neither ready for it now, nor will we be soon. This is a sorry picture indeed for the Arab masses who have held out great hopes in the summit finally producing a sort of Arab solidarity that could solve some of the problems facing us at this stage.

Morocco's invitation to Arab leaders to attend the summit, scheduled for July 13, emanated basically from profound concern about the situation in the Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra, Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh in Beirut. It was also geared to discuss the Palestinian problem in all its aspects so that a common Arab position can be found to face the new and old challenges. But Syria and Lebanon objected to this approach and other Arab states did likewise, albeit for different reasons. The result, as we can see now, is that the representation at Saturday's Arab League meeting has been reduced from the level of foreign ministers to permanent representatives, and instead of proposing an earlier date for the summit we are hearing that it is being put back all the time.

Still, more important than the time and venue of the proposed conference perhaps is the agenda and the subjects to be raised in it. Here too Arab differences surface in numerous forms. If the subject of Amal attacks against Palestinians in the Beirut camps is to be discussed for instance, why should Iran's aggression against Iraq not be raised as well? The blood being spilled in either case is Arab, and Arab leaders cannot simply remember one and forget about the other. And Libya's "strategic alliance" with Iran, among others: Is it not a subject of great concern and interest to every Arab state and its people?

Despite all these questions and others, Jordan has remained firmly behind the idea of the summit and is pressing all the time for its convening. This the Kingdom does with full belief and conviction that without the Arab leaders getting together to work jointly on their problems, nothing positive can be expected to emerge from this total chaos that their nation is living. Better salvage something than nothing.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

## Al Ra'i: Stab in the back

LIBYA'S STRATEGIC alliance with Iran represents a stab in the back of the Arab nation which has been struggling to support Iraq against the Iranian aggressors. Libya's announcement of the alliance, which it said was directed against Iraq, was a setback to efforts aimed at achieving solidarity among all Arab countries and at a time when Arab leaders are preparing to attend an Arab summit meeting to discuss ways of establishing such solidarity.

Needless to say that Iraq has been calling for an end to the Gulf war and for peaceful negotiations with Iran to end the conflict. It is Iran which has been stubborn and insisted on pursuing the conflict which has so far gained its leaders nothing and has brought so much suffering to the Iranian people.

Libya's alliance with Iran is a show of total disregard to the Arab defence pact and all the treaties, resolutions and principles of the Arab League and all previous Arab summit resolutions. By supporting the non-Arab aggressor against an Arab sister state, Libya has thus made a mockery of all previous inter-Arab agreements aimed at achieving inter-Arab coordination and integration.

Jordan, which has strongly condemned this alliance has also urged the Arab countries to stand firm in the face of irresponsible Libyan actions and hostile attitudes against the Arab nation. The Arab countries ought to act now and abort all the threats and the conspiracies embodied in the new alliance.

## Al Dustour: Defending the Arab nation

IT IS hard to find reasons for the attack on Jordan by the speaker of the Kuwaiti Parliament Tuesday. It was a mere libel and an attempt to tarnish the reputation of Jordan which has been struggling all along to defend the Arab nation and its interests.

The attack drew strong reaction from the government of Jordan and the press in view of the fact that the attacker was no ordinary citizen of Kuwait but the speaker of parliament who represents the government and whose statements are recorded in the house.

The strong angry reaction to the speech came because the statement contained no truth and the allegations and accusations had no justification. The attack was on a country that has devoted its time and power to resolving the Middle East question and helping the Palestinian people to regain their lost territory and legitimate rights. Jordan had in the past sent its troops to defend Kuwait's borders against foreign attack and will do so to defend any part of the Arab nation at any time in the future.

We reject the accusations that Jordan was relinquishing its struggle to regain Palestinian territory, as alleged by Mr. Sa'adoun, the Kuwaiti Parliament speaker, who should also realise that Kuwait's financial commitment to Jordan was in implementation of Arab summit resolutions to enable Jordan to defend Kuwait's wealth and the interests of all the Arab countries.

## Sawt Al Shaab: Situation further complicated

THE FAST-moving developments in the Arab region and the political terrorism which some Arabs are practising against Arab regimes are designed to prevent the convening of the forthcoming Arab summit meeting. The events in Lebanon, the continued factional fighting and the hijacking of planes were meant to distract Arab countries' attention from the summit and the topics that are bound to be discussed in it. The situation was made even more difficult by the Libyan announcement of forming a strategic military alliance with Iran to help it against Iraq.

The Libyan regime has been committing irresponsible actions aimed at foiling any mobilisation of Arab efforts and resources for the sake of confronting the common enemy. It has now one step further by allying itself with the enemy of the Arabs against a sister Arab country in total disregard to Arab feelings and Arab League pacts and resolutions. This new alliance is bound to create further divisions among the Arab countries and further weaken their stand vis a vis the various issues they face.

## Reagan says parties involved must negotiate Middle East peace

From USA

WASHINGTON — A Middle East settlement "imposed by any outside power" is not possible "or even desired by the parties," President Reagan says.

"The reality is that peace can only be achieved through a willingness of the parties to sit down and negotiate their differences," the president said. The White House said Mr. Reagan met with Arab journalist Nasser Eddin Nashashibi on June 11. The White House provided a transcript of the interview on June 26.

Mr. Reagan said he believes a "new and increasingly realistic attitude toward peace is developing," including the Arab position enunciated at Fez, the Reagan peace initiative, the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on a joint delegation and United Nations Resolution 242. "I am not going to predict the final outcome," he said, "but I am confident that when peace is achieved, you will be able to look back and say that many of these contributions played an important role."

Mr. Reagan made these other points: —The Soviet Union has been "anything but constructive" in the Middle East, and its role there "should be commensurate with its willingness to play a constructive role."

—The stability of the Gulf states is not assured for so long as Iran "pursues its policy of supporting terrorism and declines to resume a responsible role in the family of nations." The United States supports Kuwait's position that terrorism can be eradicated only by refusing to accede to "demands and provocations."

—There is "only one solution" to the problem of Afghanistan, "the complete withdrawal of Soviet troops." A negotiated settlement "remains the goal of U.S. policy."

Following is the transcript of the interview:

Question: Why is the U.S. government hesitant to initiate a revival of a Middle East peace plan?

Answer: My initiative, which I outlined in my speech of Sept. 1, 1982, is still on the table and we continue to believe it represents the most promising proposal for progress toward peace yet presented. We have not hesitated to urge the parties to the conflict to work on ways to move the peace process forward. There is now momentum within the region and we will do what is appropriate to sustain it, but we must recognise that peace can only be achieved when the parties are willing to negotiate directly.

Q: How do you evaluate the recent visit to Washington of King Hussein?

A: I think we understand each other very well, and I admire the king's courage and sincerity. The recent steps by King Hussein and others in the region have given a new impetus to the process of peace-making. King Hussein in Washington made clear his desire, and that of his Palestinian partners, for a peaceful settlement through negotiations, with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation on one side and Israel on the other, in a supportive international context. The King seeks a peaceful settlement on the basis of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. The visit afforded us an opportunity to reaffirm our view that a just and durable peace must address the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people as well as the security of all states in the region.

The king confirmed our joint commitment to move promptly — "this year," as he said — toward direct negotiations among the parties. We hope to be able to help the parties build upon the outcome of these meetings. I am convinced events are moving in the right direction.

Q: Would a process of mixing the Fahd "Fez" plan, the Reagan initiative, the recent resolution between Jordan and the PLO, Resolution 242, lead to a new peace effort, taking into con-

sideration the Israeli reservations?

A: I think a new, and increasingly realistic, attitude toward peace is developing. It is based on a number of contributions, including the ones you have cited. U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 remains the essential foundation for negotiations. I am not going to predict the final outcome, but I am confident that when peace is achieved you will be able to look back and say many of these contributions played an important role.

It is also important to recognise that my own proposals were an outline of the positions the U.S. would support in negotiations. We have not asked others to subscribe to our positions. Each of the parties is free to bring its own views to the table and we would expect them to do so. The important thing is to begin direct negotiations since it is through the process of such give-and-take that differences will be worked out and a just and lasting peace can be achieved.

Q: Now that we are heading towards negotiations between the Arabs and Israel, what do you expect the Arabs and Israelis to do before they sit down and negotiate?

A: We are trying to keep away from anything that sounds like we are imposing solutions to the problems here. All that we are trying to do is help get them together. It seems that solutions are going to involve one side giving up territory in return for defensible borders where peace is guaranteed. The Arab states must recognise that Israel does have the right to exist as a nation, and that peace will provide security for the Arabs as well.

Q: And what do you hope, Mr. President, that the Arabs will do in their turn from now until the beginning of the coming negotiations?

A: I hope that the Arabs will show more approval and support of King Hussein, instead of leaving him alone by himself.

Q: This point is very important, Mr. President.

A: King Hussein is entitled to know that the Arabs are supporting him in what he is trying to do.

Q: Is there anything you wish from the Israelis in these days?

A: The Israelis, as Mr. Peres said, are looking forward to sitting down to negotiate.

Q: Recent visits by King Fahd and President Mubarak have left them feeling a lack of interest by the Reagan administration to seek a comprehensive solution to the problems of the Middle East. Does this lack of interest, coupled with the devastation of Lebanon, not warrant a superpower such as the U.S. to get hold of all parties in the Middle East conflict and dictate to them a solution which is just for all concerned?

A: I can't agree with your statement. I do not believe King Fahd or President Mubarak perceive a lack of interest in the Middle East peace on the part of the United States. Nothing could be further from the truth. The United States has a deep and lasting interest in seeing a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East and we have consistently communicated that fact to all our friends in the region.

I do not believe, however, that a settlement imposed by any outside power is possible or even desired by the parties. The reality is that peace can only be achieved through a willingness of the parties to sit down and negotiate their differences. My Sept. 1 initiative outlined the positions the United States would support in such negotiations, but a real peace can only be achieved by the parties themselves through direct negotiation.

Q: How long will the U.S. tolerate the loss of innocent lives in Lebanon, in Iraq, in Iran, in Israel and in the West Bank? Is this worth the anti-American feelings that we are witnessing in this area?

A: The United States is deeply concerned about the suffering of the peoples in the Middle East brought about through the many conflicts existing in that region.

The effort to seek solutions to those problems has remained among the highest priorities of the past eight administrations and it is worth noting that the cost in American lives, effort and resources has also been high. We will not flag in this effort, but the reality remains that solutions will only be found when the parties to the conflicts have made their own decision to seek a peaceful way to resolve their differences. Negotiations bring results. Egypt and Israel have clearly demonstrated this and we are actively working to support the process of negotiations in resolving other disputes in the region.

It is important to remember that Americans and the peoples of the Middle East share a great reservoir of common interests and values. This is a reservoir which is being added to every day through trade relations, scholarly activities, and joint scientific endeavours. The participation of a Saudi astronaut in the launching of ARABSAT is an event which illustrates the great Arab scientific and mathematical strides made long before the New World was discovered. And it will remind us all how closely our futures are linked.

Q: We read everywhere that Sudan could be the bread basket of the world, and not only provide food for the area and Egypt, but also for Ethiopia and the starving masses there. Can't the U.S. government pull together all its resources and potentialities to airlift individuals and equipment into the Sudan, and work side-by-side with the locals to save the situation?

A: As you know, this year Sudan like its neighbours is in the grip of the worst drought in a hundred years. The failure of the rains has resulted in a huge deficit of grains and millions of hungry people. The U.S. has responded to this catastrophe by shipping more than one million tons of food. This assistance involves a massive effort to overcome distances and transportation problems. I understand that one out of six Sudanese is dependent on U.S. food aid.

Sudan has assumed an additional burden by welcoming hundreds of thousands of drought victims fleeing famine and war in neighbouring countries.

The U.S. has responded generously to various appeals issued by the Sudanese government and the United Nations to assist these refugees, which now number more than one million. Despite the ravages of drought, we fully recognise Sudan's long-term agricultural potential. Our development assistance emphasises the promotion of technology and institutions to make better use of the many millions of arable acres which now lie idle. Along with other donors and international agencies, we are turning to the problem of rehabilitation of agriculture from the drought. This will require a great effort by Sudan, and we stand ready to help.

Q: Are you not fearful of the Soviets regaining their position and influence in the Middle East to offset the West?

A: I believe the Soviet Union's influence in the Middle East should be commensurate with its willingness to play a constructive role in solving the problems of the region. But the Soviets have been anything but constructive, a fact often noted by the leaders of the region.

Q: We understand that the proximity of Central and South America are important to the United States. Do you not give equal importance to the Mediterranean, especially Turkey, Greece and Cyprus?

A: Both the Western hemisphere and the Mediterranean are critical areas for the security of the United States. Turkey and Greece are important partners in NATO and are essential to preserving stability in that strategic part of the world.

We also have a close and friendly relationship with the government of Cyprus.

Q: Why hasn't the Reagan administration reacted to the new relationship between Libya and Morocco?

A: The government of Morocco and we have had a number of intense and thorough discussions regarding the affect of the Morocco-Libya treaty of Union on U.S.-Moroccan relations. Morocco realises our opposition to the treaty, but we are satisfied that the Treaty has not been implemented in such a way as to affect our bilateral relations with Morocco. We will, however, continue to monitor the implementation.

The U.S. values highly our relations with Morocco and we expect our relationship to remain strong. King Hassan has reiterated the reasons for this treaty, indicating that it is directed at Libya's previous support for the Polisario. Our view of the reprehensible nature of the Libyan regime is well-known. We will not alter our position with regard to Libya unless and until Colonel Qadhafi's support for "international terrorism" and his "subversion" of governments ceases.

Q: What is the solution to the Sahara war between Morocco and the Polisario?

A: The United States supports efforts to achieve a negotiated settlement through a cease-fire and subsequent referendum. The U.S. believes that a political solution is the only way to end the conflict.

Q: Couldn't the Reagan administration look at the area as four distinct groups: (1) Northern African countries; (2) Sudan and Egypt; (3) the Arabian Peninsula which includes Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Israel and, hopefully, Palestine? Looking from a geo-political point of view, perhaps the problems could be easily tackled rather than considering the entire region as one big problem. Maybe four smaller problems could be handled more easily than one major problem?

A: There is no easy answer to your question. We see the Middle East as a greatly diverse region with many commonalities. We deal with it as a region, but also note the individual countries have separate problems and interests. There are clearly some instances of interaction between separate events and problems, but not in all cases. Depending on the issue, we approach subjects both bilaterally and multilaterally.

Q: How do you define — in common terms — the present U.S.-Libyan relationship, if any?

A: Our relationship is minimal. In fact, we have no official representation in Libya, and we will not have any until Libya changes its behaviour. Again, we are prepared to improve our relationship with Libya if and only if there is a complete and lasting reversal of Qadhafi's support for "international terrorism" and his "subversion" of governments.

Q: Former administrations came very close, at least, to an attempt at resolving the Middle East dilemma. Now that you are secure in office, could you not bring the conflicting groups to your ranch at Santa Barbara as Carter did at Camp David?

A: Look, the real need is to get negotiations underway. Location is not the problem.

Q: We have seen that you were able to bring, in the most diplomatic fashion and against all odds, the Soviets to the table. I cannot believe that you cannot do the same with the Middle East today. Why?

A: The parallel with arms negotiations is interesting. I sincerely wish that the parties to the conflict in the Middle East would sit down together at a table and negotiate and I believe that we are moving in that direction. The most important point in your parallel is that both we and the Soviets agreed that arms control negotiations should be face-to-face. We know that we don't agree in our positions and we are not sure of the outcome, but we are convinced of the value in trying to work toward an agreement by talking directly.

The need in the Middle East is for the parties to decide for themselves that they wish to pursue a just and lasting peace through direct negotiations.

Q: Why do you oppose the participation of the Soviets in the international conference for the Middle East, as already suggested by many Arab countries and by the Soviet Union?

A: This is really two separate questions. The first is why do we feel an international conference will not contribute to a peaceful settlement. Our view is that as a practical matter, an international conference will result only in political theatre and would not contribute to solutions. Only direct negotiations can achieve real results. We understand Jordan's need for a supportive international context in which to begin direct negotiations. We will continue our discussions with both Jordan and Israel in order to ascertain how such a context can best be provided.

The second question relates to the willingness of the Soviets to contribute to solutions to problems in the Middle East. We have indicated on any number of occasions that we would welcome a constructive approach by the Soviet Union to the problems of the region. We have also made clear what kind of activities we believe would be constructive. So far, however, their approach has been anything but helpful and we see no indications their approach will change.

Q: Do you think that the new leadership in the Soviet Union would be more forthcoming in cooperating with the U.S. towards world peace and security, especially in Africa and the Middle East?

A: That is a question for Mr. Gorbachev to answer. For our part, we believe that our two countries should seek to contribute to the peaceful resolution of disputes in crucial regions rather than making them more dangerous. We also believe that we should seek to avoid confrontations over these issues. That is why I proposed periodic consultations between our respective experts on some of these problems. Our hope is that such talks can help prevent misunderstandings that might result in confrontation. We have had such discussions on southern Africa and the Middle East. While these talks have been useful, they have not yet revealed any greater willingness on the Soviet's part to promote rather than impede peaceful solutions.

Q: How do you see the end of the Iraq-Iran war? Once again, are we to believe that those regional wars are necessary for Western economies as we were taught in our economics classes in Western universities?

A: Any contention that regional wars somehow serve Western economic interests is Marxist nonsense having no role in U.S. foreign policy.

We have a compelling humanitarian interest in the earliest end to the bloodshed. Moreover, the security and economic interests of the U.S., our Western allies, and friends in the region also would be best served by an immediate end to the war that leaves both countries independent and able to continue national development.

Q: Do you not think that the continuation of disturbance and wars in the Middle East affects the safety of the back door of the NATO alliance?

A: Yes, I do, and this is an issue of great concern. The world cannot ignore all the consequences of instability in any part of the globe and we must all join together in the effort to achieve solutions to regional problems.

Q: Are you satisfied with the safety of the Gulf states from any external danger?

A: No, I am not satisfied with the current situation. As long as the Iran-Iraq war continues, and as long as Iran pursues its policy of

supporting terrorism and declines to resume a responsible role in the family of nations, the stability and security of the Gulf states will be at risk. The United States has a vital interest in maintaining freedom of navigation in the Gulf and stability in the region generally, and we have worked with our friends in the area, including Saudi Arabia and the other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council, to support their legitimate defensive needs and to encourage their collective security efforts. These countries are now in a better position to defend, with their own resources, their sovereignty and territorial integrity against potential adversaries, but more remains to be done. We agree with the Gulf States that the only way to end the Iran-Iraq war is through peaceful negotiations, and we have supported their efforts, in the U.N. and elsewhere, to bring this about. We also support the position of Kuwait and other Gulf states that the only way to eradicate terrorism is to refuse to give in to demands and provocations and to work with other concerned members of the international community to find ways to end this scourge once and for all.

Q: Do you anticipate any solutions for the situation in Afghanistan?

A: The war in Afghanistan is the result of the presence of over 115,000 Soviet troops who are trying to subjugate the Afghan people. There is only one solution to the problem: the complete withdrawal of Soviet troops. A negotiated political settlement remains the goal of U.S. policy.

The Soviet forces at their present levels cannot defeat the Afghan resistance, but the resistance cannot hope to expel the Soviet army from Afghanistan. What is needed is to move from the battlefield to the negotiating table. We fully support the government of Pakistan's strong resistance to cross-border intimidation.

We are encouraged that the United Nations has announced another round of indirect or proximity talks on Afghanistan for late June in Geneva. It is our hope that progress can be made there toward a settlement, although the recent increase in Soviet military activity does not lead to optimism. In contacts with the Soviets at various levels we have stressed our support for a negotiated political settlement. We will certainly continue to make the point in our future discussions with Soviet officials.

Q: Forgetting your official position as leader of the Free World, and frankly between us as human beings, how would you go about resolving the Middle East situation?

A: Forgetting my position as president of the United States is not something I am permitted to do under the U.S. Constitution. Nevertheless, I do believe that the positions I outlined in Sept. 1, 1982, represent the most viable approach to taking the next step to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is important to note, however, that I gave them as the positions the U.S. would support in negotiations. We do not ask others to subscribe to them in advance; in fact, we fully expect others to bring their own positions to the table. That is what negotiations are all about — reconciling opposing positions. The important thing is to get those negotiations underway and for the parties to work out their differences directly in a peaceful fashion.

Q: Allow me to thank you again, Mr. President, as a great man of peace. We are all transit passengers in this life, and what counts is the good memory and the historical judgment afterwards. History will judge you as a great crusader for peace and justice. God bless you.

A: I promise we shall keep trying. I am pleased to have you here. God bless you too.



# People and institutions in U.S. have learnt to confront Israel's lobby

**They Dare to Speak Out: people and institutions confront Israel's lobby**

By Paul Findley  
Reviewed by James M. Ennes Jr.

THOMAS DINE, executive director of the America-Israel Public Affairs Committee, a major arm of the Israeli lobby known by the acronym AIPAC, publicly credits his organisation with the 1982 defeat of Illinois Congressman

Paul Findley. Mr. Dine may learn to regret that victory. After 12 years quietly representing the Springfield area in southern Illinois, Mr. Findley in 1972 suddenly became a thorn in the side of AIPAC. Newly appointed to the Middle East subcommittee, Mr. Findley asked hard questions about the state of Israel. And thus came Mr. Findley's downfall, for the Israeli lobby does not tolerate questions: it works instead to defeat the questioner. Soon Congressman Paul Findley was being called "the

number one enemy of Israel." Upsetting Mr. Findley was not an easy task and it did not come overnight. By 1980, the beleaguered congressman found himself snubbed by long-time supporters. Bob Hope and Gerald Ford reneged on promises to help the Findley reelection campaign; Ronald Reagan while visiting Springfield took steps to avoid being seen with his party's representative from that city. Still Mr. Findley won reelection by a 12 per cent margin.

By 1982, however, Mr. Findley was in trouble. Funds from every state poured into AIPAC's "defeat Findley" campaign, making this the most expensive congressional campaign in Illinois history. Congressman Findley, after 22 years in Congress, lost by less than one per cent.

According to Mr. Dine, 90 per cent of the "defeat Findley" money came from Jews — despite

the fact that Mr. Findley was by no means either anti-Jewish or anti-Israel. He voted for every major pro-Israeli bill. But along the way he had criticised Israeli policy, and so Israeli partisans from 50 states had contributed \$685,000 to assure his departure from the Congress of the United States.

Mr. Findley was puzzled. When he had questioned Israeli policy, either in committee or on the floor of Congress, he had usually stood alone. Surely he was no threat to Israel. Why did the Israeli lobby go to such trouble and expense to eliminate him? How much power and influence does the Israeli lobby really have in the American Congress? In the White House? On college campuses or among the clergy? What about reporters, columnists, editorial writers, publishers, business leaders and media executives? Why do American opinion-makers seem to present a solid front of pro-Israeli

opinion? Mr. Findley set out to find the answers.

The U.S. Congress, presumed to be primarily responsive to the will of the American people, in fact listens most carefully on Middle East matters to the will of Israel. Most congressional actions affecting Middle East policy are either approved in advance or actually drafted and initiated by AIPAC. Private conversations by congressmen with their staffs are promptly reported to AIPAC through a special intelligence network and usually result immediately in pressure to bring the recalcitrant member into line. Slowness to respond can bring heavy pressure from "concerned pro-Israel constituents". Stubbornness results dependably in ouster at the polls. Consequently, debate on Middle East matters is rare. Members of Congress approve pro-Israeli measures without discussion and often against their

own best judgment. In one unusual but revealing interview, Congressman Daniel Rostenkowski told a reporter that he voted against an important bill, not because he opposed it, but because he feared "the Jewish lobby".

The Reagan White House enjoys "unprecedented intimacy" with AIPAC. In one case AIPAC's executive director was appointed to a "blue ribbon" panel formed to recommend foreign aid changes — including aid to Israel. This assignment, complained former Senator James Abourezk, was like asking the president of Lockheed to help the Pentagon decide what airplanes to buy.

Presidential candidates curry AIPAC's favour. Candidate Walter Mondale in 1984 maintained constant contact with AIPAC headquarters and, according to Mr. Dine, regularly "bounced ideas off us" before making them

public. The Defence Department is so riddled by pro-Israeli activists that officials assume every military secret no matter how sensitive, is known immediately to the Israeli government. During the Vietnam war, weapons in short supply and needed by American troops were sometimes supplied instead to Israel.

American colleges and universities, generally considered a bastion of academic freedom, are less than free when Israel is concerned. AIPAC boasts over 5,000 activist students on 350 campuses in all 50 states. The students organise confrontations with anti-Israeli speakers, record their talks, organise pressure campaigns and work to infiltrate non-Jewish groups to help spread the pro-Israeli influence. AIPAC suggests that students "attempt to prevent" the appearance of pro-Palestinian speakers — a method they often follow with a vengeance. Pro-

fessor Edward Said of Columbia University describes one such confrontation as "... pure fascism, outright hooliganism". Arab or Palestinian studies departments are frequent targets of AIPAC pressure, along with almost any campus activities that might offer a forum for discussion of views different from those held by the pro-Israeli lobbies. As a result, while Jewish studies departments are common on American campuses, Middle East studies are dominated by Zionists and Arab studies are almost unheard of.

Paul Findley has uncovered a pervasive pattern of Israeli influence in American affairs that will disturb the sleep of anyone who believes in participatory democracy. If Americans give this book the attention it deserves, AIPAC may wish Paul Findley were back in Congress where he might be easier to ignore — Middle East International, London.

## Why there is boom in Italy's TV ads

The Italian retail market is changing from the "Mama and Pappa" shop format to a much bigger mass market — via the ubiquitous TV. Alan Friedman describes how Robert Lasagna is a pioneer.

MILAN — He used to sell toothpaste in Glasgow. But, for Robert Lasagna, an Anglo-Italian whose MVL Partners advertising agency is rapidly climbing through the ranks of Italian companies, that was a long time ago — 1955 to be precise.

Today Lasagna has a Milan-based agency which has not only gone from zero billings to nearly Lire 40 billion (\$20.5 million) in six years, but which is the target of at least two international agencies seeking to bolster their position in the Italian market through a merger or acquisition.

Lasagna's strategy — to focus almost exclusively on the mass marketing of low-cost and high volume consumer goods through television advertising — has coincided with more than a little good fortune. Italian television has been revolutionised over the past few years by the enormous success of Silvio Berlusconi's commercial television empire, which has overtaken the state television networks in terms of annual advertising. At the same time, and in part thanks to the growth of television in Italy, the Italian retail market has been changing, from the small "Mama and Pappa" shop format to a much bigger mass market increasingly reliant on supermarkets and hypermarkets.

Mr. Lasagna and his two creative partners at MVL — Mauro Mazzone and Silvana Vercelli — have been riding on the back of the boom in Italian commercial television, which last year saw a 76 per cent jump in corporate spending on advertising, to Lire 2,597 billion (Nielsen estimates). That figure for commercial television represents more than three-quarters of total television advertising expenditure by Italian companies.

As a result of the Lasagna strategy, MVL is set to move from being the 28th largest company in terms of billings for 1984, with Lire 26 billion, to a spot close to 21 or 22 this year. And, if merger talks come to fruition, MVL could be catapulted this year into the ranks of the top five agencies, not had going for a company which employs only 20 people on two floors of a building in central Milan and started operating only in 1979.

The Lasagna story — the name does not quite fit with the blazer-wearing and whiskered gentleman who last month spent five days with Prince Philip and other executives of his beloved World Wildlife Fund — is more than anything else an illustration of the growth of Italian television advertising. MVL is by no means the only agency to have zoomed in on the market, but it is among the more successful, this year managing a billings-to-employee ratio which at one million dollars a head, including directors and secretaries, is comparable with the best.

The client list at MVL, which includes Beecham, Cinzano, Clark Gum, ICI, Kawasaki, Seat Auto and the Irish Dairy Board, shows a fair mix of products, ranging from hand-cream and shampoos to chewing gum and cars. Who, then, is Robert Lasagna, and how has he created a company which is being wooed from abroad? Born in La Spezia on the Ligurian coast, he did his examination credits in the U.K., spent a year as a trainee product manager with Unilever Italy and in 1955 went to work in London for Masius and Ferguson. "The first thing they did was to send me to Glasgow as an assistant to the local Colgate toothpaste sales rep," he recalls with a smile.

In 1965, he returned to Italy, where he opened the Milan branch of what was then Mather and Crowther. After the takeover by David Ogilvy, Lasagna served for 10 years as general manager in Italy. By 1977 he had built up Lire 7 billion of billings and a staff of 34 in a market which, compared with today's, was almost immobile. From 1960 to 1978, the Italian advertising market grew by about 40 per cent in total billings — last year alone it grew 41 per cent (Nielsen).

In 1978, together with two creative directors who also had television experience, Lasagna formed MVL Partners. "I had turned

40 and wanted to start my own company. If you don't do it at 40 you never do." MVL was formed with Lire 20 million (\$10,240 at today's exchange rates) of capital and one secretary. "We began with no clients, with zero business, but with many friends," recounts Lasagna.

The first major client to come along was Beecham's Italian subsidiary, with L150 million of billings for selected 30-second television spots, mostly for the Glysolid hand-cream product. Today Beecham is one of MVL's largest clients, with annual billings of more than L7 billion and nine products ranging from Badas soap to MacLeans toothpaste.

Lasagna says that his company has never borrowed from a bank, but he admits that MVL did not break into profit until 1981. This was just around the time that Berlusconi's private television stations were coming into prominence. Berlusconi, formerly a property developer, is today Italy's unchallenged television mogul, with three national networks which last year attracted L680 billion of advertising.

The Lasagna formula was to devote 90 per cent of company resources to television, abolishing the concept of account executives and providing personal service by himself or his two partners. The bulk of his staff are what he calls "media executives" whose job is to "haggle" for air space and take care of administrative matters. Lasagna reckons that three key changes have conditioned the Italian advertising business in the past five years: there has been a dramatic change in product distribution channels, in selling organisations, types of advertising.

"We are a television agency and we are only interested in supermarkets really, in consumer goods. Italy is changing from corner shops to a huge mass market. Today my target is the Sicilian factory worker who has moved to Turin or Milan, has a wife and a sister who both work and they all go to the supermarket every Saturday morning to buy all the week's goods. No longer do most Italian housewives go to a local shop where the proprietor says: "Oh, Signora Bianchi, why don't you try this new egg shampoo?" In today's Italy, the housewife goes to the supermarket and buys the goods she has seen on television. Either she recognises the brand name immediately or you are dead."

The change in marketing and distribution is clear: whereas in 1975 supermarkets accounted for 0.4 per cent of 172,447 retail outlets and 17 per cent of consumer sales, supermarkets (i.e. shops over 400 sq. metres) now represent 0.7 per cent of 157,153 outlets, but 28.6 per cent of sales. When hypermarkets and other large multi-product outlets are added, Italy's small retailers today end up with 73.6 per cent of the outlets, but just 48.1 per cent of the trade.

The old pattern of a consumer company employing 300 salesmen to travel round the country — as in Britain in the 1960s and early 1970s — has shifted only recently to a new structure whereby a few salesmen sell to about 20 major buying groups which account for more than half of the retail market.

Italy's television revolution means that whereas before a salami was just a salami, today it is a branded salami. As a result, Mr. Lasagna says: "The buyers for large groups must have the top four or five nationally advertised products — we are establishing demand brands."

Mr. Lasagna reckons that now his business has reached a point where he must double the staff or sell out — no longer can he grow with a tightly-woven staff of 20 people. But he does not wish to borrow from banks to finance the growth and does not wish to be taken over. Therefore, he is pursuing takeover offers from two large European agencies, hoping to retain management control after a merger.

Who are the mystery bidders? The ebullient Robert Lasagna strokes his Edwardian whiskers and says: "Watch this space" — Financial Times news feature.

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## Australia beats England in 1st innings

LONDON (R) — Australia were dismissed for 425, a first innings lead of 135, on the third day of the second test against England at Lord's Saturday.

Australian captain Allan Border led his team past England's first innings total of 290 during the afternoon session of the second test at Lord's.

By tea on the third day, Border was 184 not out and Australia 371 for six, 81 on.

Two wickets fell after lunch, taken at 261 for four. Greg Ritchie, having made 94 in 268 minutes, was trapped leg before by Ian Botham with the total at 317. It was Botham's third wicket.

Border and Ritchie, who came together at 101 for four Friday, had shared a fifth wicket stand of 216 in 66 overs.

By this time Border had reached 171, beating his previous best test score of 162 against India in the 1979-80 series.

England's troubles continued as incoming wicket-keeper Wayne Phillips, another left-hander, cracked Phil Edmonds for six over mid-wicket and picked up three boundaries off Botham in the next over.

But all-rounder Botham then had Phillips caught at point by Edmonds for 21 with the total 347.

Border's 13th test century and fourth against England came from 150 deliveries and included 10 fours.

Earlier, Border had overhauled Bobby Simpson in Australia's list of all-time run-scorers by taking the overnight score to 94 with a pulled shot through square leg.

A single to third man followed to give the left-handed batsman 4,870 runs in test cricket, a total exceeded by only six Australians.

Border's century was his fifth of the current tour in which he has displayed rich form, but he was made to work extremely hard for his runs.

England began the day with Paul Allott and Foster bowling in harness. Allott in particular was unlucky not to take a wicket in the 12th over when Ritchie, on 51, appeared to be caught behind by Paul Downton.

Umpire David Evans ignored an appeal by the entire England team and Ritchie continued to bat solidly and by lunch, taken early due to poor light, had made 69 not out.

England's pace bowlers were replaced by spinners Phil Edmonds and John Emburey during the latter part of the session.

It was a change which further reduced the run rate, but provided a fascinating battle of wits for the 25,000 attending the traditional highlight of England's cricket season.

England's new ball pairing of Paul Allott and Neil Foster had called the time initially by dispatching openers Graeme Wood and Andrew Hilditch cheaply.

Wood, a compulsive hooker, swung Allott on the leg side despite Emburey being specifically placed at deep backward square for such a shot. Emburey held the catch and the West Australian was out for eight following two failures in his team's five-wicket defeat in the first test.

Foster uprooted Hilditch's left stump when he had made 14, but England's progress was checked as Kepler Wessels and Border, carrying the attack to the bowlers from the outset, put on 56 for the third wicket.

Ian Botham, determined not to be kept out of the spotlight after his failure with the bat, tilted the balance again by snapping up both Wessels and David Boon.

## Bayern Munich president seeks court debt settlement

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — The president of West German Soccer League champions Bayern Munich has filed for court protection from creditors after running up private debts of between nine and 15 million marks (three and five million dollars), a court-appointed receiver said Friday.

The move, announced by receiver Manfred Barzen, follows a statement this week by Bayern's president Willi Hoffmann that the club would take three months leave from the club on June 30 to settle his private affairs.

Barzen said Hoffmann's debts had arisen as a result of construction deals unrelated to the club involving the purchase of eight hotels for conversion to private apartments.

Under a court-supervised debt settlement, Hoffmann would prob-

ably be given a fixed period by his creditors to repay about one-third of the total debt. Barzen said.

Hoffmann, 54, took charge at Bayern in 1979. The club has said he plans to resume as president at Bayern's annual meeting on Oct. 30.

LECCE, Italy (R) — Newly-promoted Italian first division soccer club Lecce have made a transfer bid for Bordeaux's French international midfielder Jean Tigana, a club official said Friday.

Tigana, a star of France's 1984 European Championship triumph, has provisionally accepted the move on the basis of an annual salary of 350 million lire (\$180,000).

But French League champions Bordeaux have not yet decided whether to let him go, said Lecce official Enzo Delli.

Tigana, 30, born in Mali and a naturalised French citizen, would be the second member of the European champions' midfield to join an Italian club.

## Budd clocks world's best time in 3,000m

GATESHEAD, England (R) — Britain's Steve Cram and Steve Ovett, world champion and record holder respectively over 1,500 metres, slumped to shock defeats in a triangular Athletics International Saturday.

But Zola Budd bounced back from her first track upset in Britain on Monday to clock the fastest time in the world this year for 3,000 metres.

Cram, running in front of his home crowd after clocking the third fastest 1,500 metres time ever in Oslo on Thursday, was upstaged by Scot Tom McKean in the 900 metres in Britain's match against France and Czechoslovakia. McKean finished in 1:47.32 with Cram second in 1:47.61.

Ovett was surprisingly beaten for speed in the finishing straight of his 1,500 metres event by guest runner Chris McGeorge.

South African-born Budd, beaten by little-known American Darlene Beckford over 3,000 metres in the Ulster Games in Northern Ireland five days ago, ran barefoot and dominated a moderate field. She clocked 8:44.55 and finished 60 metres clear.

## Acuna crushes Cash in 8 minutes

LONDON (R) — Chilean qualifier Ricardo Acuna knocked out Australian sixth seed Pat Cash while another man and three women's seeds were beaten in the second round at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships Saturday.

Acuna, 27, a Davis Cup player who grew up on clay courts and learned the fast court game in the United States, needed less than eight minutes to finish a 7-6, 6-3, 3-6, 6-7, 6-4 victory over Cash, a

semifinalist here and at the U.S. Open last year.

Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia, seeded 15th, was drubbed 6-3, 6-1, 6-2 by American Sammy Giammalva.

Jo Durie of Britain, ranked fifth in the world two years ago but 56th now, overpowered women's sixth seed Claudia Kohde-Kilsch of West Germany 4-6, 6-1, 6-2. Texan Anne Smith upset ninth-seeded fellow-American Bonnie Gadusek 2-6, 6-4, 6-2 and Larissa Savchenko of the Soviet Union beat American 10th seed Kathy Jordan.

Jordan, a quarter-finalist two years ago when she upset Chris Evert Lloyd in the fourth round, went out 7-5, 3-6, 6-3 to the 18-year-old Savchenko.

Third-seeded Jimmy Connors became the first player into the fourth round by beating Ram Krishnan of India 7-5, 5-7, 7-5, 6-2. Acuna's triumph seemed inevitable when play was halted by rain Friday night with him 5-3 ahead in the final set.

Cash led 30-0 when they resumed and Acuna took the first three points, forcing Cash to save a match point before making it 5-4.

Acuna dropped the first point on his own serve, but four straight points culminating in an ace took him into a third round match against American David Pate.

Cash, netted a forehand on the first of the four points and overhit a backhand service return on the second. Then a high backhand kill off a desperate lob by Cash carried Acuna to match point.

Cash gave full credit Saturday to Acuna. "He's not playing much now and is almost semi-retired, so I must be playing worse than I was two years ago. But to his credit he hit a lot of great shots at the right times."

"I couldn't return his serve. He was hitting his second one harder than before and even on my backhand, where my return is usually my best shot. I couldn't return it. The harder I tried, the worse it got."

## U.S. takes commanding lead

BREMEN, West Germany (R) — The United States, missing most of their top names through injury or unavailability, opened a commanding lead Saturday in both the men's and women's athletics matches against West Germany.

At the end of the first day the U.S. men led by 77 points to 49 and the women by 45-28 to make Sunday's competition little more than a formality.

The West Germans, confirming fears that they are in sharp decline as an athletics power, won only three events Saturday.

European champion Harald Schmid won the men's 400 metres hurdles in a highly respectable 48.96 seconds, while Alwin Wagner took the men's discus with a throw of 62.90 metres.

Wagner beat Olympic champion Rolf Dammberg into second place in West Germany's only one-two victory of the day.

The only West German win in the women's events was recorded by Brigitte Kraus who just held off a late challenge by Leann Warner to win the 1,500 metres.

## Law Society wins Irish Derby

NEWBRIDGE, Ireland (R) — Pat Eddery brought Law Society with a superbly timed run to win the Irish Derby Saturday and give a great boost to the virus-stricken stable of trainer Vincent O'Brien.

Eddery won his third Irish Derby with a driving finish that put the 15-8 favourite half a length ahead of Theatrical at the line with Damister two and a half lengths away in third.

Law Society, a distant second to slip anchor in the Epsom Derby, is one of the few O'Brien stars to have escaped a virus that has hit the Irish trainer's stable this year.

Greek shipping magnate Stavros Niarchos' colt, a bay Son of

Alleged, landed Saturday's £134,615 (\$175,000) prize in courageous style, battling all the way up the long straight at the curragh to wear down 6-1 shot Theatrical.

The big disappointment of the day was the hitherto unbeaten Moukhtar, the French Derby winner who faded out in the straight despite strenuous urging by jockey Yves Saint-Martin.

The field for the one and a half mile classic was reduced to 13 at the last moment when Mango Express bolted from the starting stalls, unshipped jockey Paul Cook and had to be withdrawn.

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## RESULTS OF HORSE RACES, FRIDAY, JUNE 28th, 1985

\*\*\*\*\*

**FIRST RACE:**  
For beginner horses,  
Distance: 1,000 metres.  
Time: 1 minute 14 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	K. Dafy	Hamad El Jamany
2ND:	Minwir	Faleh Aly
3RD:	R. Maeen	A. El Naeem A. Windy

**SECOND RACE:**  
For beginner horses,  
Distance: 1,000 metres  
Time: 1 minute 12 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	Elanka	Fahid Mitiak
2ND:	Fadia	Abdullah Ayyash
3RD:	Ghadear	Faisal N. El Falez

**THIRD RACE:**  
For beginner horses,  
Distance: 1,400 metres  
Time: 1 minute 42 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	Batta	Mishal El Falez
2ND:	Shams Amman	Samy Haddadin

**FOURTH RACE:**  
For beginner horses,  
Distance: 1,000 metres  
Time: 1 minute 8 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	Shihanih	Faisal Awad El Falez
2ND:	El Zafir	Mishal El Falez
3RD:	Sahah	Nimir El Hmoud

**FIFTH RACE:**  
For third class horses,  
Distance: 1,400 metres  
Time: 1 minute 41 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	Jallab	H.H. Late Sherif Nasir Stable
2ND:	Hailmah	Izzat Kandour
3RD:	El Hmady	H.H. Late Sherif Nasir Stable



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**SYLVESTER STALLONE (RAMBO)**  
(Colour)  
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

### Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 625155  
**SYLVESTER STALLONE (RAMBO)**  
Performances: 3:00, 6:00, 9:00

### Cinema OPERA

Tel: 675573  
**BEVERLY HILLS COP**  
Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30. Abdali, behind ALIA offices

### Cinema PALESTINE

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**"DIWAR" (For you, mother)**  
**THE BLOOD BATH**  
(Colour)  
Performances: 12-3-7

### Cinema RAGHADAN

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**CONFUSED GIRLS**  
(Arabic)  
(Colour)  
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## Kuwait considers aiding financial institutions

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait is considering a billion dollar aid plan to help local banks and financial houses over a debt crisis stemming from the 1982 local stock market crash, banking sources said.

A priority will be to help settle some foreign debt owed by troubled financial institutions, the sources said.

Finance Minister Jassim Mohamad Al-Khorafi has agreed in essence to the idea, according to letters written by Central Bank Governor Abul Wahab Al-Tammar and published last week by the Arabic daily Al-Qabas. Sheikh Tammar thanked the minister for his approval in principle.

The crisis followed the stock market crash, which left \$90 billion in worthless post-dated cheques. The state, in an effort to solve the problem, has watered down most of the liabilities and

urged settlements below original face value.

But a fall in share and real estate prices has cut the value of many debtors' assets and loan collateral, exposing the banks to large bad, or doubtful debts.

In the letters written to Sheikh Khorafi, Sheikh Tammar said banks and those investment firms and money exchange houses which were structurally sound, but faced liquidity problems, would receive aid under the plan.

Al-Qabas said the plan envisaged a credit package of 500 million dinars (\$1.65 billion) in state funds.

The banking sources said the amount eventually could be higher.

The money would be used in part to create liquidity in the financial sector and give banks leeway to reschedule clients' loans

which could be saved.

Bankers say a cure to the crisis is vital to recovery of the economy, which has slumped from double-digit growth in the 1970s to recession now, caused largely by the stock crash but aggravated by falling oil income and the 57-month-old Gulf war.

Sheikh Tammar specified in one of two letters that 100 million dinars (\$330 million) should be set aside to cover needs of money exchange houses.

It was not immediately clear whether this was part of the 500 million dinar package, or extra funding, the sources said.

Sheikh Khorafi said last month the central bank had already arranged a \$51 million emergency credit to help Kuwait's second biggest foreign exchange, bullion and real estate trading firm, Jawad and Haidar Abul Hasan Com-

pany, meet liabilities incurred on foreign exchange dealings.

It provided half itself and arranged for local banks to muster the rest.

The sources said they expected the government to retain a safety net for this type of liability to help maintain the reputation abroad of Kuwaiti financial institutions.

The government also wanted to avoid giving foreign banks reason to cut credit lines to Kuwaiti financial institutions, which would harm both their financial standing and the national economy, the sources said.

"However, it (the government) has drawn a clear distinction between such foreign exchange debt and the liability on any loan or credit extended by foreign banks," one source said.

"It has been made clear that in any loan or credit, the foreign

bank should have evaluated the risk and must bear the consequences," he added.

The sources said details of terms and conditions under which credit should be given were being discussed by the central bank and the commercial banks.

The plan could fuel a simmering controversy in Kuwait's elected national assembly over the spending of billions of dollars in public funds on past efforts to solve the crisis.

Sheikh Tammar wrote to Sheikh Khorafi that it was possible cash used in the proposed rescue plan would not be recovered, but said:

"Support for the banking and financial sector is an economic priority. We should sacrifice some public money, as the net result will be a boon for the national economy."

## U.S. trade deficit swells

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States trade deficit swelled in May to \$12.7 billion, the second highest monthly total on record, the U.S. Commerce Department reported Friday.

Imports climbed to a near record \$30.1 billion while U.S. exports sank to the lowest level in 15 months, the department said.

The growth in imports and the weakness in exports left the trade deficit 6.9 per cent higher last month than the \$11.9 billion imbalance in April. The May deficit was the highest since a record \$13.8 billion shortfall last July.

Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige predicted the trade deficit this year would surpass \$140 billion and could go as high as \$150 billion. That would be far above last year's record \$123.3 billion deficit.

The country's trading woes have been blamed on the strength of the dollar, which makes imports cheaper and more attractive to American consumers while making U.S. products more expensive and thus harder to sell overseas.

Mr. Baldrige said the value of the dollar had declined by about eight per cent since hitting its highs against major foreign currencies last February. But he said even with those declines, it was still 43 per cent higher than its 1980 average.

Mr. Baldrige said the deterioration in U.S. trade would not stop until the dollar declined further and economic growth picked up overseas.

The trade report said the \$30.1 billion import total, up 1.5 per cent from April, was the second highest monthly import total on record, led only by a \$32.9 billion surge last July.

The import gains last month came in such areas as textiles, which were up 16.9 per cent over April, chemicals and aircraft shipments.

These gains offset a small drop in U.S. oil imports. The country's foreign oil bill totalled \$4.62 bil-

lion in May, down 1.1 per cent from April.

Exports fell to \$17.4 billion, 2.1 per cent below their April level, and the slowest export pace since February 1982.

The decline in exports stemmed from a 17 per cent drop in U.S. agricultural shipments to a May total of \$2.16 billion. Declines came in shipments of soybeans, tobacco and corn.

U.S. sales of manufactured goods rose a slim 0.2 per cent in May to \$21.2 billion, but this gain was not enough to offset the decline in agricultural sales.

Among the categories which posted gains were sales of aircraft, electrical machinery, chemicals and coal.

As usual, the biggest deficit was incurred with Japan, a \$4.24 billion imbalance, up from \$4.03 billion in April. The gain came despite the fact that shipments of Japanese cars dropped by 9.3 per cent in May to a total of \$1.24 billion.

### Dollar tumbles

Meanwhile, the U.S. dollar tumbled Friday in foreign exchange trading in New York as the government reported the huge foreign trade deficit in May and disappointing news in connection with its main economic forecasting gauge.

Gold prices were mixed. In after-hours trading, Republic National Bank in New York quoted a bid for gold at \$315.75 a troy ounce, down \$1 from Thursday's late bid.

Mr. Dan Holland, who follows the foreign exchange markets for Discount Corp. in New York, said the dollar's decline was triggered by government reports on the trade deficit and revisions in an earlier report on growth in its lea-

ding economic indicators.

The Commerce Department said its index of leading indicators climbed 0.7 per cent last month. But the report also revised downward to 0.6 per cent the previously reported 0.2 per cent decline in the index for April.

The trade deficit is blamed for the country's sluggish growth over the past year.

Mr. Holland said currency traders felt the lower leading indicators figure for April and the huge May trade deficit may mean that the second-quarter economic estimate will be revised lower.

"The economy may be a little more soggy than was thought", he said.

That encouraged speculation that the Federal Reserve (Fed) may have to ease credit conditions and encourage lower interest rates, Mr. Holland said. Such a development would reduce yields available on the dollar.

Mr. Holland said another reason for the dollar's decline was news that Mr. Lyle Gramley has resigned as a member of the Fed board effective Sept. 1. Mr. Holland said traders feared that he would be replaced with someone who would advocate a looser monetary policy.

Wall Street stocks again close at record high.

On the other hand, Wall Street stock prices rose again Friday, pushing the Dow Jones industrial average to its second consecutive record high close.

The Dow Jones industrial average gained by 3.25 points to close at an all-time high of 1335.46, breaking Thursday's record close of 1332.21. Volume on the New York stock exchange fell to 105.24 million shares from 106.73 million Thursday.

Analysts said trading was generally quiet and most issues ended with little change. Some were disappointed that there wasn't a more enthusiastic response to Thursday's finish.

## Poland announces price increases

WARSAW (R) — Poland's communist rulers Friday went ahead with plans to increase meat prices on July 1 despite widespread public opposition, including strike threats.

State television officially announced the increases on its main evening news bulletin.

It also announced an increase in purchasing prices paid to farmers, and a news-reader said this would result in more food on the market.

Strike calls meanwhile continued to surface in response to the planned increases, including a statement by activists of the outlawed Solidarity Union in Warsaw's biggest industrial plants.

The statement said: "Preparations for a strike in response

to meat price rises have been discussed and methods of swift communications have been agreed in case the strike action were to be prolonged."

It was signed by the union's clandestine branches in such traditional Solidarity strongholds as the Ursus tractor plant, the Huta Warszawa steel works and the Polish Fiat motorcar factory.

The television said the resultant 25 billion zloties (\$158 million) in increased revenue would scarcely make a dent in this year's 300 billion zloty (about \$3 billion) state food subsidies.

It added the authorities had already made concessions to workers by introducing staggered increases

and holding down the rise in meat prices.

Steering beef will go up from 100 zloties (about 63 cents) to 110 zloties (70 cents) a kilogramme, but Poland's favourite cut of meat, pork loin, will rise from 470 zloties (almost \$3) to 540 zloties (\$3.41). The daily wage of many Poles averages \$3 to \$5.

Solidarity's clandestine provisional coordinating committee (TKK) has called for a one-hour nationwide strike if the rises go into force.

Solidarity leader Mr. Lech Walesa has said he would support any worker protests but stopped short of calling for a strike, a criminal act under Polish law.

## EC withdraws from sugar market

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC), one of the world's major sugar exporters, has withdrawn indefinitely from the market in a bid to boost record low prices, senior Community officials said Friday.

Earlier last week world prices

slumped to 2.56 cents per pound their lowest level since World War II depressed by chronic oversupply in a market already hard hit by increased use of sugar substitutes.

The cost of payments to Community traders to export surplus

sugar had risen to more than 80 per cent of the internal price.

"We were just throwing money away. We wanted to send a message (to the market) that we are not prepared to allow the price to be chased down," one senior official said.

## U.S., Japan and Panama study building new canal

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AP) — Representatives of the United States, Japan and Panama concluded a week of meetings here Friday, reaching agreement to go ahead and make feasibility studies for building a new canal linking the Pacific and Atlantic. A "final report" was presented to the president of Panama at a ceremony here by Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias in the name of the tripartite commission.

Although the text of the report was not made public, a presidential communiqué said the agreement "does not commit

Panama to undertake any works on behalf of the United States."

"Panama conserves full freedom of deciding its future," it said adding that "the United States will provide (technical) information whose cost is calculated at \$20 million, with a Panamanian investment of only one third of that sum."

In accepting the document the president, Mr. Ardito Barletta said the agreement "opens for Panama a great stage in its future, by participating on an equal footing with the United States and Japan in scientific studies in-

volving the latest technology."

The agreement recommends that Panama, Japan and the United States set up a special study commission as soon as possible to consider alternatives to the 70-year-old Panamanian waterway.

Mr. Richard Wyrough, the State Department's coordinator for Panama affairs and chief U.S. delegate to the meeting here, said in an interview that once formed the study commission would focus on three key possibilities.

These are construction of a new sea-level canal, building a third set of locks to upgrade the existing canal, and other possible methods of modernising the old canal.

Mr. Wyrough said the United States is obligated by treaties signed with Panama in 1977, turning ownership of the waterway over to the Panamanians, to study the feasibility of building a sea-level

canal.

But he said the effort to discover viable alternatives to the existing canal is something the United States "would probably undertake" with or without the treaty.

He described the effort as a search for "the best way to take advantage of this location that serves our interests and the interests of world commerce."

Asked about funding Mr. Wyrough said he expected the three countries to share all expenses equally.

Asked how Panama — now in the midst of its worst economic recession in 50 years — could afford to help with the funding, Mr. Wyrough said: "That is I think essentially their business."

However, Mr. Wyrough said that assistance from the Inter American Development Bank or

other similar agencies had already been discussed as a possibility.

A sea-level canal across the Panamanian isthmus has been under consideration ever since French engineer Ferdinand de Lesseps started building the original canal here in the late 1800s.

To this day there is widespread disagreement on how such an engineering feat could be pulled off and at what cost, both in terms of money and the environment.

Asked what he thought about the possibility of constructing such a canal, Japanese delegate Mr. Sumio Odo here said "nobody knows."

"That's the whole point of the (study) commission, to find out whether or not it is possible," he said, shrugged his shoulders and added in Spanish: "¿Juien sabe — who knows?"

## Japan posts another trade success

TOKYO (R) — Japan announced another big monthly trade surplus Friday as ministers put the finishing touches to a package of measures to try to contain its growth.

Japan sold the world goods worth \$4.29 billion more than it bought in May, a huge jump from a \$2.99 billion trade surplus in May last year, the finance ministry said.

May exports rose from \$14.09 billion in May 1984 to \$14.23 billion but lower oil prices helped to take imports down from \$11.10 billion to \$9.95 billion.

The latest figure brought the total trade surplus for the first five months of the year to \$17.29 billion, almost 20 per cent higher

than in the same 1984 period.

Japan's export successes and a perception that its market is not completely open to imports has triggered widespread complaints from the United States, Europe and Asian neighbours.

Many countries are preparing legislation to stop the flow of Japanese goods and preserve jobs in industries at home which cannot compete with Japanese products.

They threaten to implement these measures if Japan does not do something quickly to cut its trade surplus.

To counter this, Japan is assembling an "action programme" of measures designed to increase imports to bring trade more into

balance. Government officials said details will be announced by the end of July.

At a press conference Tuesday, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone promised bold steps to simplify safety checks on goods entering Japan.

He has already pledged to cut or end tariffs on 1,800 items and hopes to announce measures which will strengthen the yen and make Japan's goods more expensive abroad.

Japan's current account balance of payments surplus, which takes invisible earnings into account, also expanded in May from \$1.99 billion in May 1984 to \$3.58 billion.

## Chile reschedules debt, devalues peso

SANTIAGO (R) — Chile's military government has followed up a vital foreign debt refinancing agreement with a snap devaluation of the peso and a package of potentially unpopular economic measures.

Economy Minister Modesto Collados announced Friday night that the official rate of the peso was being devalued to 168.9 to the dollar from 155.72, a drop of 7.8

per cent.

At the same time, import duties will be cut to 20 per cent from 30 per cent and a series of tax incentives will be introduced for exporters.

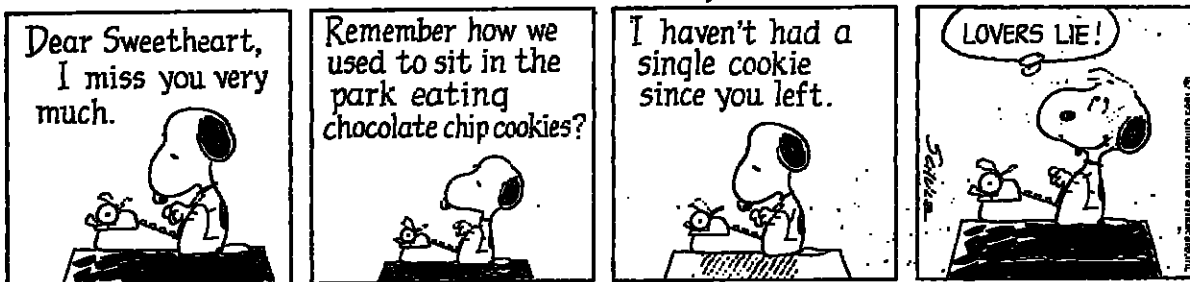
"(This is) a collection of measures destined to make exports truly the motor of our economic growth," Mr. Collados told a press conference.

The measures clearly mark a

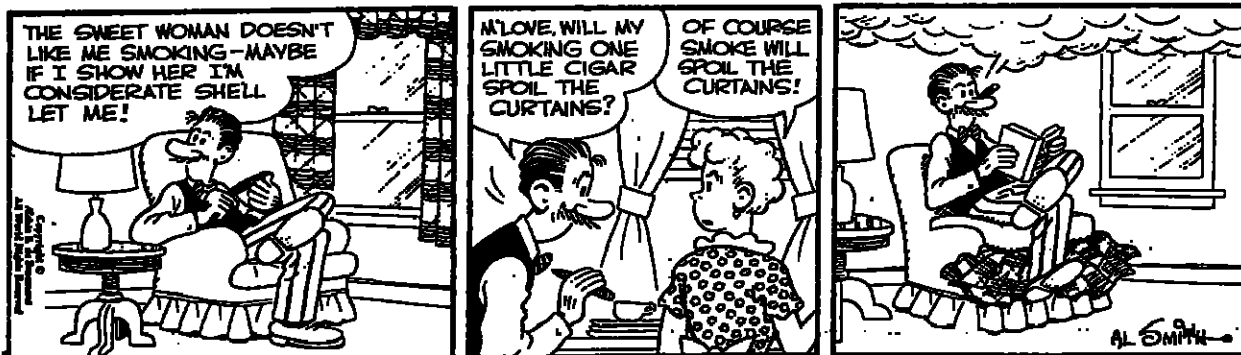
return to the financial orthodoxy favoured by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and by the conservative, free-market economists who ran the economy for President Augusto Pinochet.

Under pressure from anti-government protests then, he experimented with "political, liberalisation and a looser economic policy designed to appease powerful interest groups.

### Peanuts



### Mutt 'n' Jeff





# U.S., Soviets agree to hold summit in November, Post says

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Washington Post said Saturday tentative agreement had been reached for a summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to be held in Geneva in November.

The Post, in a report from Moscow quoting diplomatic sources, said a final decision on the meeting would depend on the progress of U.S.-Soviet arms talks now taking place in Geneva.

A summit meeting was first proposed by Mr. Reagan in a letter to Mr. Gorbachev last March soon after the new Soviet leader took office.

It was originally expected that it would take place in New York if Mr. Gorbachev attended the United Nations General Assembly meeting in September but he announced recently he would not come to New York.

The Post said U.S. officials in Washington did not deny that a tentative date and time had been set for the summit, but they said that no final agreement had been made.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko discussed a possible summit at a meeting in Vienna last month but no progress was reported to have been made on the issue at that time.

Meanwhile the Security Council president said Friday the council members are planning a "summit" meeting with as many top leaders

in attendance as possible to mark the United Nations' 40th anniversary but have not set a date or an agenda.

Ambassador Doddridge Alleyne of Trinidad and Tobago, reading an agreed statement to reporters after informal consultations among the council's 15 members, said:

"They expressed the hope that the member states would participate at the highest possible political level."

The president was mandated to hold further consultations to set the date and agenda.

Observers said a likely time was September or October, when many heads of state or government, as well as foreign ministers, will be in New York for the General Assembly session.

France earlier this year proposed such a meeting to discuss ways of strengthening the U.N. system.

The members of the council are: Australia, Britain, Burkina Faso, China, Denmark, Egypt, France, India, Madagascar, Peru, Soviet Union, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine and the United States.

In Chautauqua, New York, President Ronald Reagan's senior adviser on arms control said Friday he thinks it is "wholly likely, probable and necessary" that the Soviet Union will soften its objections to U.S. research on a space-based anti-missile defence.

Paul Nitze also said there would be no arms-control agreement until "there's a green light from the politburo."

Mr. Nitze spoke at a news conference before a conference on U.S.-Soviet relations at the Chautauqua Institution, a lakeside, Victorian-era resort in south-western New York.

It is possible, he said, that an arms-control accord could arise out of another "walk in the woods," such as the one he had with his Soviet counterpart, Yuri Kvitinsky, in Geneva in 1982.

The agreement on intermediate-range nuclear missiles that arose out of that private conversation later was rejected by the Soviet leadership.

Mr. Nitze said such negotiating tactics could succeed, but, "the important thing is whether the circumstances are favourable."

Soviet objections to research on the "Star Wars" anti-missile defence are unreasonable because research is not banned under the anti-ballistic missile treaty, Mr. Nitze said. Besides, he said, the Soviets themselves are conducting similar research.

Mr. Nitze spoke Friday as a last-minute replacement for Robert McFarlane, the national security adviser, who was involved in negotiations to free Americans held hostage in Beirut.

Meanwhile, conference director John Wallach urged renewal of scientific, scholarly and cultural exchanges "as soon as possible."

Representatives of the two superpowers have been meeting privately this week to reach an accord on cultural exchanges, which were disrupted by the U.S. government in early 1980 to protest the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

Since then, Soviet representatives have repeatedly urged the United States to resume regular exchange programmes for academicians, scientists, artists and others.

But the chief Soviet conference delegate, Pavel Podlesny, balked at any mention of timing. The two sides compromised Thursday evening on the phrasing "in the near future," Mr. Wallach said.

Mr. Wallach, foreign affairs editor of the Hearst newspapers, organised the conference. Podlesny is chief of the U.S.-Soviet department of the Soviet Union's prestigious institute of U.S. and Canadian studies in Moscow.

Mr. Podlesny announced earlier this week that the Chautauqua conference seemed to be going so well that the Soviet Union might reciprocate and invite Americans to a similar conference at a Black Sea resort next summer.

Mr. Castro, in a marathon 25-hour interview with a U.S. congressman and an American journalist in March, spoke over eight days on topics ranging from Cuba's deteriorating relations with Washington to its improving ties with Moscow.

In the interview, to be published in the August issue of Playboy magazine, Castro said U.S.-Cuban relations had worsened "considerably" since President Reagan's election.

He said he would be willing to meet Mr. Reagan in the interest of improving relations — but only if an invitation was forthcoming.

Mr. Castro also expressed interest in debating "a group or... all U.S. congressmen at once."

"I don't want it to be said that I'm proposing a meeting with Reagan," Mr. Castro told representative Mervyn Dymally, a California Democrat, and freelance writer Jeffrey Elliot.

"But if the United States government were to propose a meeting of that nature, a contact of that type, we wouldn't raise any obstacles," said the 58-year-old leader of Cuba's 1959 revolution who has run the Caribbean island ever since.

Asked by the interviewers whether he had decided on a successor, Mr. Castro confirmed speculation of many years duration and named his younger brother

Raul to replace him after death.

"Raul Castro, today second secretary of the (Cuban Communist) Party... would immediately assume leadership," he stated.

The bearded Castro, who gave the interviews late at night and in the early hours of the morning dressed in military fatigues, said Raul had been chosen not "because he's my brother but due to his experience and revolutionary merits."

A Cuba expert at Georgetown University's Centre for Strategic and International Studies said it was the first time Mr. Castro had publicly named his brother as his successor.

But Mr. Castro has dropped hints for several years. During the early 1960s he even reportedly wanted the Cuban opposition that if it did not knuckle under, they might have to contend with his brother who is widely considered to be more hardline.

Most of the long interview was concerned with Mr. Castro's off-stage condemnation of Reagan administration policies towards Central America and South Africa and his repeated denials of U.S. charges of a Cuban-Colombian drug connection.

But Mr. Castro also gave a rare glimpse of his private life, recounting that to relax he goes scuba diving and his disappointment at being unable to visit a newly opened Chinese restaurant because the inevitable crowds would spoil his meal.

Mr. Castro indicated he has no intention of stepping down soon.



HOSTAGE MEETS THE PRESS: One of the American passengers of a Trans World Airlines taken hostage in Beirut talks to reporters early Saturday when hopes were high for an early release of the hostages by their captors in Beirut (AP wirephoto)

## Castro names brother as successor

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Fidel Castro has confirmed in a magazine interview what Cubans have suspected for years — that his brother Raul will succeed him as Cuba's leader.

Mr. Castro, in a marathon 25-hour interview with a U.S. congressman and an American journalist in March, spoke over eight days on topics ranging from Cuba's deteriorating relations with Washington to its improving ties with Moscow.

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Mr. Castro indicated he has no intention of stepping down soon.

"I don't have any plans for dying," he said, adding he believes he can "still be useful and make further contributions to the revolution."

Excerpts from Mr. Castro's answers on other issues:

"Americans are one of the least politically educated and worst-informed peoples on the realities of the Third World, Asia, Africa and Latin America."

"The idea that anyone is in prison in Cuba, no matter what you have heard, for holding ideas that differ from those of the revolution is absolutely nonsensical. ...The history of the revolution contains no cases of physical abuse or torture."

"How can Cubans or Nicaraguans be a threat to a country (the United States) that has 16 or 17 aircraft carriers, 300 bases throughout the world, thousands of nuclear weapons? How can a Third World nation that does not produce any airplanes be a threat to a country thinking about 'Star Wars' defences. It's ridiculous, it's brainwash."

"I don't know where this notion of the legality (of the Salvadoran) government comes from. ...everyone knows under what conditions the elections took place: Amid the most ferocious repression, terror and war. Everyone knows the election campaign was planned by the United States, that the political parties were manipulated by the United States and that the electoral campaigns were funded by the United States."

## Tamil groups to boycott Bhutan talks

NEW DELHI (R) — Four major militant Tamil groups will boycott talks in Bhutan next week to end Sri Lanka's guerrilla war, their spokesman said Saturday.

"The Sri Lankan government has not observed the ceasefire they had set last week. Sri Lankan troops are still attacking Tamils," the spokesman told Reuters by telephone from Madras in southern India.

He said the alliance of groups, comprising the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), Eelam Revolutionary Organisation (EROS), and Tamil Eelam Liberation Front (TELO) would observe the situation before commenting further.

Indian and Bhutanese officials said the talks, aimed at ending Sri Lanka's guerrilla war, would be held in the next few days at Thimphu, Bhutan's capital.

Tamil guerrillas are fighting to set up a separate state in northern and eastern Sri Lanka.

The Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), Sri Lanka's main Tamil political party, and the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE), are the other groups invited to the talks with the Sri Lankan government.

An LTTE spokesman by telephone said his group had no comment on whether they would break the ceasefire, announced by Colombo last week after the five major Tamil groups had agreed to cease hostilities.

Tamil guerrillas kidnapped two Sinhalese policemen and shot dead the headmaster of a school in the northern Jaffna area on Wednesday.

A spokesman for Sri Lanka's National Security Ministry told Reuters in Colombo the sporadic incidents did not threaten the planned talks in Bhutan.

TULF President Appapillai Amirthalingam was quoted by the United News of India as saying in Madras he had been in touch with the leaders of different militant groups to discuss a common strategy for the talks.

The LTTE and the other militant groups have offices in Madras, capital of Tamil Nadu state where a population of 50 million Tamils have close ethnic links to Sri Lanka's Tamils.

Colombo has accused India of sheltering Tamil separatist guerrillas in south India, a charge rejected by New Delhi.

In Colombo, a Defence Ministry spokesman dismissed as "nonsense" the allegations by guerrillas that troops were attacking Tamils.

Defence Secretary Sepala Attiyagalle told Reuters it was the guerrillas who had violated the ceasefire.

## Troops patrol Indian city to prevent clashes

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Troops patrolled Baroda city in west India Saturday after police had to fire in the air to disperse fighting crowds, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said.

The news agency said the army was deployed in the industrial city in Gujarat state after rival groups attacked each other with stones Friday night. Two policemen were wounded in the clashes.

PTI also said five people were wounded when police opened fire on unruly mobs in Gujarat's central Kaira district. Protestors attacked two buses in Surat town, it added.

More than 200 people have been killed in Gujarat in violent protests over the past three months against a government policy reserving a quota of jobs and college places for poor classes and castes.

Meanwhile, the Punjab state governor announced Friday that the government will release all Sikh prisoners not facing serious criminal charges.

Governor Arjun Singh also said the state government will also pay compensation of 20,000 rupees (\$1,600) to the relatives of each person killed in Punjab since the Sikh Akali Dal launched a movement for greater political and religious autonomy in August 1982.

He announced he had set up a government committee to expedite payment of compensation to victims of the anti-Sikh violence triggered by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's assassination by two Sikh security guards last Oct. 31.

Arjun Singh did not say how many prisoners would be freed.

## Indian government accused of repressing Bhopal victims

NEW DELHI (AP) — A group representing victims of the Bhopal gas leak have accused state officials of instigating acts of police brutality against survivors and of withholding adequate financial and medical relief.

The group, which calls itself the Poison Gas Disaster Action Front, contended that the Madhya Pradesh state government took "repressive measures" against Bhopal demonstrators who were demanding more aid for the gas victims.

Indian journalists in Bhopal said police used force to break up a demonstration by people demanding more medical care and compensation for victims of last December's gas leak.

Dr. Anil Sadgopal, chairman of the front, told a news conference in New Delhi that Bhopal police raided the houses of several activists at midnight last Monday and arrested about 35 people, including six doctors.

Five people were beaten up by police while being arrested and they were threatened with "dire consequences" if they continued to work for the front, he said.

The police also raided a volunteer health clinic run by the group and confiscated supplies, equipment and furniture, Dr. Sadgopal said.

During a demonstration Tuesday at the state government's office complex, he said police brutally beat the protesters with bamboo staves, injuring several women. Two women were dragged by their hair and beaten, he said.

More than 2,000 people were killed when methyl isocyanate gas leaked from Union Carbide's pesticide plant in Bhopal on Dec. 3. It was the world's worst industrial accident.

Dr. Sadgopal charged that adequate relief for 250,000 affected people is being "deliberately avoided in order to underplay the magnitude" of the disaster and obscure the evidence which could be used against Union Carbide in court.

The group is demanding special therapy for lung damage, gynaecological checkups, monitoring of births and treatment for mental disorders.

## Filipinos start mopping up operations after floods

MANILA (R) — Government and relief officials Saturday mounted a massive mopping up operation after the worst flooding in a decade crippled the Philippine capital.

At least 50 people died, including 15 in Manila, in flash floods and landslides and relief officials said the death toll could rise.

Communications with remote provinces and villages in northern Luzon Island were not fully restored but officials said they believed several towns were still under water.

Some 90,000 people in Manila have been evacuated from their homes to schools and churches.

About 500 mm of rain have fallen since Wednesday and the heavy downpour turned roads into swirling rivers and flooded many parts of Manila and its suburbs.

Residential areas and shanty towns were submerged in up to two metres of water and people clung to rooftops to escape the deluge.

Many streets were clear of water Saturday as civil defence volunteers and nearly 1,000 engineers began clean-up operations.

A Red Cross official said a family of five, including three children, drowned in Manila as floodwaters swept away their house.

At the height of the flooding thousands of commuters were stranded and hundreds of cars stalled on submerged streets.

Some people waded through waist-deep water to get to work, but so many stayed home as the government declared a holiday.

The authorities have issued health warnings and urged people to drink boiled water to prevent epidemics.

Several people have died after touching live wires and the government has switched off electricity in flooded areas.

The rainstorms and the floods were made worse by typhoon Irma lurking north east of the Philippines and moving towards southern Japan.

President Ferdinand Marcos blamed the flooding on people who threw garbage into sewers, blocking drainage.

## IATA: Athens Airport security better

MONTREAL (R) — Greece has raised security at Athens Airport to fully acceptable international standards since the hijack of a TWA airliner two weeks ago, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) has said.

But there are still several major airports around the world that need to upgrade their security arrangements, said the agency which represents the world's major airlines.

IATA, which did not identify the other airports, began reviewing possible security weaknesses at the Athens Airport after the June 14 hijacking of a Trans World Airlines (TWA) plane by Shiite gunmen on a flight from Athens to Rome.

Thirty-nine Americans are still being held hostage in Beirut as a result of the hijacking.

IATA officials had been critical of security at Athens Airport as long as five years ago. A team of specialists completed a review and

said the Greek government had agreed to implement a number of other recommendations.

IATA, which is based in Montreal, reported that the Greek government "has agreed to immediately implement all recommendations and security at Athens Airport has been raised to fully acceptable international standards."

President Reagan urged Americans to avoid travel to Athens after the hijacking incident and Pan American World Airways suspended flights to Athens after Mr. Reagan's call. Service has since been resumed.

The Athens announcement came as IATA's security panel held a special one-day meeting here to discuss all aspects of aviation security following the recent rash of bombings and hijackings.

Spokesman David Kyd told a news conference the meeting strongly recommended expansion of current airport inspections and

great emphasis on securing aircraft on airport ramps against sabotage.

The airline industry should also work with manufacturers to speed development of high technology security equipment to upgrade defences against air piracy and sabotage, he said.

Mr. Kyd declined to name the "five or six airports" where tougher measures are needed. But he said two are in the Far East and three are in the Middle East and Africa. He also cited the Beirut Airport as a special case.

Mr. Kyd said Greek authorities had failed to implement recommendations stemming from an in-depth review of the Athens Airport in 1980, Greece had argued all along that existing measures were satisfactory, he said.

IATA security experts still do not know whether the hijackers of the TWA jet had their guns planted on the aircraft or smuggled them aboard, he said.

## Afghan rebels kill general, capture Panjsher post

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghan rebels have claimed a major victory in the Panjsher Valley north of Kabul, where they killed an Afghan army brigadier-general and captured a military post manned by over 450 soldiers.

General Ahmaduddin, deputy corps commander in the Afghan capital Kabul, died in a June 15 rebel attack while inspecting the post at Puzhigur halfway up the strategic valley, the Jamiat-i-Islami guerrilla party said in Peshawar Friday night.

State-run Radio Kabul also announced Gen. Ahmaduddin fell in action, saying the 45-year-old general "bravely fought up to the last moment of his life" but giving neither the place nor time of his death.

Gen. Ahmaduddin, who had been promoted last April, was leading a high-level delegation from Kabul to check whether Puzhigur needed to be reinforced after several smaller posts around it had fallen to the rebels, a Jamiat spokesman said.

According to a letter received from Panjsher Commander Ahmad Shah Masood, rebels captured Puzhigur, the last in a chain of five large posts along the valley floor, after only one night of fighting.

The letter said 110 Afghan army officers and 350 soldiers were captured but mentioned no casualties, leading to speculation in Peshawar that the post fell according to a pre-arranged plan after being infiltrated by the rebels.

Gen. Ahmaduddin, who earned a doctorate in military science through studies in the Soviet military academies at Frunze and Vroshilov, was leading a delegation of more than a dozen officials from the army, the Khad secret police and the Defence and Interior ministries when he was killed, Jamiat said.

One colonel in the group also died and the rest — five colonels, three lieutenant-colonels, and several lieutenants — were captured, it said.

The rebels, who retreated from most of their Panjsher strongholds in April 1984 during a major Soviet offensive, captured about 400 Kalashnikov automatic rifles, 10 mortars, four 76mm howitzer field guns and thousands of rounds of ammunition, mortar bombs and howitzer shells, the letter said.

They also seized six trucks and an armoured car and destroyed two tanks and five armoured cars, it said.

Masood, whose narrow and mostly deserted valley had been relatively quiet this year, launched attacks on the chain of military posts in early June.

Soviet aircraft responded by stepping up bombing runs and Afghan army units began to be reinforced, Western diplomats said this week.

Moscow, which has maintained about 115,000 troops in Afghanistan since December 1979, pulled its soldiers out of Puzhigur and other exposed Panjsher posts last September.

Afghan exiles in neighbouring Pakistan said the announcement of Gen. Ahmaduddin's death was the first public admission they could recall that guerrillas had killed a high-ranking officer.

Major-General Mohammad Abdul Azim, commander of the army's eighth division based outside Kabul, died in November 1983 when rebel rockets downed his helicopter during a trip to the Logar Valley, they said.

The official media announced Gen. Azim's funeral in Kabul but gave no reason for his death.

A Communist Party Central Committee statement said Gen. Ahmaduddin's death was "a great loss to the fighters of the revolution" and said he fell "in battle against counter-revolutionaries imported from the other side of the border." Most rebels are based in Pakistan.

Gen. Ahmaduddin, who joined the Communist Party in its founding year 1965, was the number two man in the Kabul corps hierarchy which oversees the three Afghan army divisions stationed there to guard the capital, Kabul Radio said.

His working class background, charter membership in the party and advanced training in the Soviet Union clearly put him in the Communist elite in Afghanistan.

According to Masood's letter, about 100 rebels firing heavy weapons from the surrounding mountains and 57 charging guerrillas armed with automatic rifles attacked the Puzhigur post at 6.30 p.m. local time.

They quickly broke through the security perimeter of mines, trenches and barbed wire but armed resistance from the post lasted until dawn.

A Jamiat spokesman said the rebels would cart off the captured weapons and ammunition to caves in the upper reaches of the valley to protect them from expected Soviet and Afghan retaliatory strikes.

The large number of prisoners would pose a special problem since Communist forces usually bomb heavily any rebel stronghold or village known to be holding captured soldiers, he said.



## China unco bribery scan

PEKING (R) — A corruption scandal has erupted in Shaanxi, which 32 Communist officials and a number of

are accused of taking b People's Daily said Saturday said a man named sheng had set up a compa.

accepted payment for larg bers of hemp bags from companies and then issu bills of lading, pretendi

non-existent goods had be ivered. When problems arose gave bribes to the officials i age to smooth themover. He bribed local journalists for s run newspapers and radio sta who obliged by issuing favour news reports on him and his o

pany. Liu obtained more than million yuan (\$3.5 million) ough his activities of which half has been recovered, the d said. The rest was either s andered by Liu, used to bribe icials or to buy quantities of ca television sets and bicycles.

First giant panda, born in Japan, dies

TOKYO (R) — Japan's first giant panda cub was crushed to death by its mother as it slept Saturday, 43 hours after it was born at Tokyo's Ueno Zoo, a zoo spokesman said.

The incident occurred even though zoo attendants were keeping a round-the-clock watch over the cub and its 12-year-old mother Huan Huan, the spokesman said.

He said the infant panda was believed to be male. Huan Huan was artificially inseminated last March after failing to mate with her partner Fei Fei.

Princess Michael hospitalised

LONDON (R) — Princess Michael of Kent, at the centre of a recent scandal over revelations that her father was a high-ranked member of the Nazi SS, was admitted to hospital for a period of complete rest, her secretary said.

Princess Michael, 40, married to Queen Elizabeth's first cousin, maintained throughout the affair that she was unaware of her father, Baron Gunter von Reibnitz's long association with the elite Nazi force. Her secretary, Michael Farmer, said she had cancelled all immediate engagements. He would not say how long she planned to remain in the King Edward VII Hospital in central London. Princess Michael, one of the most glamorous members of the royal family, has continued her engagements since the scandal burst on to the front pages of the British press last April. Born Marie-Christine von Reibnitz, she was brought up by her mother in Australia after her parents separated at the end of World War II.

"I was desperately ashamed," she said in a television interview shortly after learning of her father's past, but added: "My shoulders are broad. I shall have to carry it."

Oldest person celebrates birthday

TOKYO (R) — Shigechiyo Izumi,